

# Review of Book Issued In 1895 Is Interesting

In 1895 Post G of the Travelers' Protective Association hosted the national convention of that organization here in Terre Haute. In honor of that important occasion a sixty-page booklet was printed by Moore & Langen. Filled with pictures of local buildings, street scenes, and local citizens, it furnished a brief history of the city, and gave a glowing account of the city's growing prosperity to impress the out-of-town delegates to the convention.

Some seventy years later it still makes interesting reading. According to the booklet, "the visitor must go out be-



DOROTHY J. CLARK

hind a pair of Terre Haute's famous trotting horses to get the full effect of the delightful suburban scenes on one hand and of the city's views on the other. Start at the upper edge of the city skirt-

ing the groves of Collett Park, admire its award of blue grass and the numerous family groups that picnic here every summer day to find a breeze, stiffer and cooler than gets into the city. The road curves into the fields

as we head towards the hills, beautiful wheat fields, gardens and orchards, though we have just left the city line. The ground begins to lift in little knolls and a landscape rises before us in which the trees follow the wavy lines of broken ground.

"Now we turn into a lane paralleling the ridge, and its verdant slopes descend toward us. Here is the driving park and the famous 2:01½ track, 90 acres in all. A handsome amphitheatre faces it, and behind are 60 acres of shade and blue grass, with groups of fine barns and halls. Next comes Edgewood, hundreds of acres in a great stock farm, where a hundred trotters live and bands of brood mares and colts nip the grass in shady paddocks and herds of graceful deer browse in their park.

"A detour will take us steeply beyond the architecturally fine entrance to the Highland Lawn Cemetery, its rich monument and careful landscape gardening making it too fair to be gloomy. The first road follows the sloping, shady hillsides, flanked by orchards and gardens. Next to these natural parks we approach Deming Park, 50 acres of lowland and highland, groves of forest trees and more of the universal blue grass of this country which borders the roads and grows luxuriantly everywhere. A look to the east shows the line of the Boulevard, paved with asphaltum, which will run from the heart of the city to the gateway of Deming Park, and will be a splendid avenue of over three miles in length.

"A little further along a gate stands hospitably open to an avenue between stately trees leading into more park, a stock farm and country seat, as beautiful as a dream. Its roads cross rustic bridges and circle ponds and lakelets. It has knolls, hills and valleys, orchards, meadows, groves, trim buildings, superb stables and barns for horses and cattle, and groups of high bred Jerseys feed in the shady pastures. Cornering this park is Willow Ridge, another stock farm, and farther is the Deming stock farm; near it a rosery, growing roses for Chicago. The road is on a level with the tops of high buildings in the city, off yonder. We see the dome of the Court House, 200 feet in the air, the towers of the depot, the Normal School, the graceful Orphan Home, the imposing bulk of the large wholesale houses and factories, and the huge brewery and distilleries. We dip into the lowland to pass a few of the market gardens and farms of the 200 gardeners who raise watermelons, nutmegs, strawberries and vegetables for Chicago and other hungry cities; pass Warren Park, another stock farm, the home of Axtell and other rare trotters, and return to the city by way of Strawberry Hill, after a very pretty drive of six or seven miles through pastoral beauty without going over two miles from town.

"But to obtain another view of Terre Haute and a ride which is still more charming, let us cross the river and follow a road winding by the Wabash, through wooded valleys and up green hills, and then look down upon the city, which is still more charming, swept by the river in two graceful curves. There is a picture, in which the stately

towers of the fine depot and the Romanesque Normal building, the lofty dome of the Court House, the massive wholesale blocks, the churches' tapering spires, and the columns of smoke and steam above the busy factories show to great advantage.

"Continue along this pleasant road a few miles to one of our surprises, one of our prize pictures, the beautiful and romantic St. Mary's In The Woods, a seminary and convent of the good and pious Sisters of Providence, presided over by the Mother Superior of the order in the United States. There is a superb group of buildings, consisting of a perfect little hotel for the many visitors, a grand academic edifice, dormitories, dwellings and a noble church, an exquisite work of architecture within and without, with columns of the rarest

marbles, and carvings and frescoes from the hands of the masters. It is easy to see that this sacred fane costs \$200,000 and that over half a million has been invested in all the property. The surrounding grounds embrace 500 acres of woodland, lawns, pastures full of fine cattle, which supply the milk, cream and butter for the academy, gardens and fields which show fine landscape gardening and tilling, while rustic bridges, trim hedges, flower beds, stream and ponds add picturesque effects to the lovely scene. From the tower again we see old Terre Haute and the winding Wabash and are again impressed by its rare location and attractions.

"Natural advantages and judicious improvements have made Terre Haute one of the cleanest and healthiest cities in the land, which is shown by a death rate so low that none is so low except in the high elevation of Colorado. A city on a high plateau by a river, with substrata of sand and gravel, has a natural drainage, and needed no sewers until a large population and waterworks made drainage necessary. The thickly settled quarters are well sewered but that is not enough, and the plans are drawn for a belt sewer to encircle the city and make a system ample for the present population and all that is expected for many years, at a cost of several hundred thousand dollars.

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"The streets of the city from its center to its circumference are level, smooth hard and clean. The founders made them wide, straight and at right angles; nature let them level, and the engineer made them smooth and hard, by macadam in the less traveled districts and by brick and asphaltum on the much used streets. It is open to dispute whether macadam with good gravel and crushed limestone does not make a perfect road outside of heavy business traffic.

"Wabash Avenue, the principal business street, over 80 feet wide, is paved with brick, and all side streets opening upon it in the business section are paved with brick or asphaltum. The long streets, bordered with handsome residences, like Seventh, Sixth Fifth, are laid with asphaltum and brick. Limestone in flags as large as 15x6 feet is so easily procured from nearby quarries that many sidewalks are laid with it, but a rage for artificial stone has set in and that perfect paving material is seen all over the city in front of fine mansions and the neat and pretty cottages of the working people."

I'll continue the description of Terre Haute in 1895 in next week's column, and leave it to the reader to contrast conditions then with our present day city.

# TH Travelers Association T.H. Tribune Star 2/26/67 Impresses Out-of-Towners

By DOROTHY J. CLARK

Last week's column told of the booklet printed by Post G. Travelers' Protective Association, when that organization hosted the national convention here in Terre Haute in 1895. Admittedly the descriptions of our fair city were intended to impress the out-of-town delegates, but present day boosters can appreciate their efforts.

Terre Haute's water works system was described as "perfect in efficiency, and filtered water is forced by direct pressure from the pumping works to the extreme city limits and can be thrown from the hydrants over the tops of the loftiest buildings.



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"This admirable system pumps over 3,000,000 gallons a day into the mains, but it can supply 15,000,000 gallons a day and furnish a number of streams 100 feet high."

"The fire department is the city's pride. The high morale of the department more than discipline has made the firemen a dashing and rapid body, which can throw its seven divisions upon a fire in a wonderfully brief period.

"Such men and such horses are not seen every day; and when the hose is on the plugs, the steam engines in reserve, the chemical engine and the aerial truck in place, the fire has little show."

"Sometimes it seems as if Terre Haute has more poles, and taller poles, to the square yard than any city of its size in the country. It is full of electricity, with telegraphs along its nine railroads centering at the two depots, two telegraph lines, a fire alarm system, long distance and local telephone service, two electric lighting and two trolley lines."

"It has always been the most brilliantly lighted town since electric lamps came in, and it has now a new plant that attracts visitors to the city because of its up-to-date system, with smoke-consuming furnaces, novel upright boilers with prodigious capacity for steam making, and triple expansion engines fed with triple heated steam."

## Up-Dated Lighting

"Old fashioned power-wasting shafting and belting are done away with, and the latest engines are coupled with the dynamos. Modern devices for detecting broken and ground-

ed wires and a new marble switchboard are also unique. The system lights 2,000-candle arc lamps all night, 365 days in the year.

"Under the same roof are the plants for a steam heating plant which supplies steam to hotels, stores, residences, etc., and the Terre Haute Electric Railroad. The president and active manager of these three concerns is Russell B. Harrison.

"Twenty miles of street railroad join the ends of the city to the center. It is said to be the most solidly and scientifically constructed street railroad in the country, and its rails and road bed have attracted the attention of many railway managers.

"Even the great Terre Haute races or Barnum's circus never draw a crowd that the electric road cannot sweep off to the city in 10 to 15 minutes. Its manager has a genius for massing cars and dispersing crowds."

"A Crematory for turning into clean ashes all of the city garbage is a novelty well worth the visitor's attention. It can cremate anything from a dead horse to a barrel of liquid slop. When the refuse is shot into the furnace it is attacked by fierce heat from above and below and that is the end of it.

"A model Abattoir for the slaughter of cattle does away with a nuisance to which some cities are exposed. There are two gas companies to furnish gas for light and fuel at a lower price than is paid for artificial gas by any other city in the west.

## No Slums?

"An air of evenly diffused prosperity hangs over Terre Haute. Each street has a finished appearance. The residences have spacious grounds and room for lawns and shade. If palaces are scarce, poor tenements are scarcer. The general average is high, and as the visitor is whisked along the long streets on the rapid electric car he may wonder where are the shabby quarters, the cheap tenement rows in which poor labor is housed.

"There are none, for about

30 building and loan associations have been filling hundreds of blocks with the elegant little houses which the

Terre Haute mechanics and operators own and live in. And many large fine residences have been built in the same way.

"Although manufacturing is an important Terre Haute interest, there is cause for some wonder that there is not more, when land around is so cheap and so crisscrossed by railroads, coal so handy and low, and lumber, stone, clay, iron, grain, etc., so accessible.

"The Indiana gas belt stopped many who would have come to the coal fields in that steady movement of industry

and capital from the east to the west which is in progress. Gas will cease to flow some day, we fear, and will regret as a loss to the great State of Indiana, but centuries will not exhaust the coal, even if the electric wires take on the current at the mouth of the mine and deliver it to the cities.

"We are doing very well, however, with car works, rolling mills, iron furnaces, machine shops, flour mills that turn out 2,000 barrels of flour a day, hominy mills, fork and tool works which moved here from New York, a piano case factory that migrated from Massachusetts, coffee and spice mills, artificial ice companies, canning and bottling concerns, cheap furniture and box factories, brick and tile works, carriage and buggy manufactories, soap, patent medicine and surgical apparatus makers, stave and heading factories, planing mills, and enough more to make a round hundred industrial establishments.

## Corn Thrives Here

"If the traveler will go out on the Peoria or the two roads to the West, he will see that Terre Haute is at the beginning of a great corn belt. Just over the river are the Wabash bottoms, fat land for tremendous crops, and then on farther stretch the corn fields along the three roads from Terre Haute.

"An eastern savant once examined all the corn in the east to find the best white corn, for making a patent yeast powder, and found it in Maryland; but when he came to Terre Haute, as he did, to organize the Rose Polytechnic Institute, he discovered in this market the very best white



# TPA Booklet Shows Trade Prosperous in Gay 90's

By DOROTHY CLARK

There has been so much interest in the Gay Nineties description of Terre Haute as published in the souvenir booklet given to the delegates attending the Travelers' Protective Association's national convention here, that I decided to devote one more column to the subject. This is the third and final column in this series.

Under the heading "Jobbing Trade" it was stated, "If Terre Haute has not as many jobbing houses as cities twice as large, it has jobbing houses twice as big as those in the larger cities."

The retail trade of the city was described as "creamy." They sell not only to Terre Haute but to over 200,000 people within a radius of 50 miles. The city supports great department stores, and the growth of trade is shown by the large number which occupy double and triple front buildings.

There were five banks and a

loan and trust company, four of which occupy elegant bank buildings. The educational advantages of the area were listed.

Under the heading "A Little Pointer," the following illustration was given. "We find in one business a striking illustration of the claim that Terre Haute enjoys peculiar advantages as a distributing point in the character of its contiguous territory and the directness of its railroad communications. We will remark first that starch and soap are types of high civilization, and polished cuffs and collars signs of prosperity."

"A laundry firm of this city, Jas. Hunter & Co., turned an opera house into a laundry, and weekly sends out its ham-  
pers to 14,000 customers in

200 towns, who have their laundrying done in Terre Haute. Some live near the Mississippi River and others close to the Ohio. Nothing can show the centrality and accessibility of Terre Haute better than this little item, which also speaks well for the way its men do business."

## Coal Veins Shown

Our underground resources were listed also. "The coal which is on the surface a mile west on the other side of the river, and at depths of 40 to 80 feet a few miles east, seems to be upheavals of veins that lie 160 feet below Terre Haute, which thus has plenty of coal in its sub-cellar as it were."

"At 1,600 feet, in the Niagara rock, petroleum was found in 1889, and since then three wells within the city limits have flowed steadily, yielding now about 50 barrels a day, which flows through a pipeline to an iron tank of 36,000 barrels capacity, a mile east of the wells."

"At about 2,000 feet a vein of magnetic water has been struck by several drillings. Two very fine sanitariums and bath houses, with large swimming pools, are supplied by this water, which is rich in medicinal curative properties and has affected many cures among the numerous visitors from home and abroad. The patronage is not confined to the sick, however, as the water has properties which make it delightful in the swimming pools and baths."

The gravel suitable for cement, tiles and imitation marble has been mentioned. Clay and shales for ordinary brick, fire and paving bricks and sewer pipes are abundant. It was peculiar that a Chicago florist, exploring the country, came here as a stranger to establish a rosery, because he found on the ridge outside the city a soil perfectly adapted to growing roses.

"In a few years he built up a large business, shipping great quantities of flowers away. There are five other conservatories and flower gardens and doubtless the number will grow."

"The prairie and rolling land within a few miles are full of market gardens, and an immense cannery is now going up to handle stuff that otherwise would go to Chicago. The Georgia melon is not a match for the Terre Haute melon, nor the Jersey nutmeg any better than the Vigo cantaloupe, both of these being cultivated extensively and shipped far and wide."

## Elaborate Hotel

"The Terre Haute House is

the most up-to-date hotel in Indiana. From its beautiful exterior to the costly and elegant interior fittings it is unsurpassed, and a walk over the lower floor, from reception room through the gorgeous Turkish room, office and lobby, brilliant dining rooms, elaborately furnished bar and billiard hall, and its private electric, water and refrigerating plants and kitchen

ens will surprise not a few strangers.

"The new Filbeck, another new house, as its name shows, it the most elaborate and finished hotel plant for medium rates in the state. Its building is handsome and interior first-class in all the term implies. It should be looked at as an example of a very elegant and spacious hotel that was built and fitted up, complete, in the most modern style, in 120 days."

"There are also other resorts for the weary traveler. Terre Haute is too well used to the crowds that flock to the greatest fall meetings in the country not to know how to take care of them."

"The population of Terre Haute is 38,000, and the valuation is \$25,000,000. Its revenue is about \$450,000. There

are many institutions and establishments in Terre Haute worth a visit by specialists or sightseers, because they are extensive, unique or superior.

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"Among them are the stock farms and parks, Highland Lawn Cemetery, the Vigo County courthouse, the State Normal School, Rose Polytechnic Institute, Rose Orphan Home, St. Anthony's Hospital, St. Mary's Academy, the Hulman grocery warehouse, the Havens & Geddes Company's department store, the electric plants, the mammoth distilleries and brewery, and cattle barns, the piano factory, the Rose Dispensary, the Old Ladies's Home, the Daily Express typesetting machines, the Terre Haute House, the cracker bakery, the new Terre Haute Carriage Works, Terre Haute Carriage Repository, the Standard Wheel Works, the fuel gas plant, the water works, the Vandalia depot, the government building, the crematory, the abat-

toir and the artificial plants."

Post G, TPA, at Terre Haute, was described as "a hustling organization that we like to put forward as representative of this city. This post, which has drawn together over 300 members in three years, is a detachment in that grand army of commercial travelers, numbering hundreds of thousands, whose members are dropping from every train that stops at every town in the United States, armed with anything from a grip to a wagon-load of trunks.

"They dispense information, good cheer, samples and goods from ocean to ocean and from the lakes to the gulf with unflagging zeal and industry, and as among them the true camaraderie is found it was very natural that the Travelers' Protective Association should spring up for mutual protection and organized union.

"The Terre Haute comm-

... hall and assembly room, where the post assembles on the second Saturday of each month. During the winter months a literary and social entertainment is given every six weeks and two receptions are held during the year. In 1895 the president of the local post was W. T. Barnett and the secretary was Walter S. Duenweg.

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T.H. Trib. 11/18/62

# Thanksgiving Week in Centennial Year

By DOROTHY J. CLARK

A fading copy of the Terre Haute Evening Gazette dated "Monday evening November 27, 1876" was loaned to me by Mrs. Chas. Caress, of 2178 Crawford street. This 86-year-old newspaper had been delivered to Engalbart Coordes' grocery store located on the southeast corner of Seventh and Hulman streets. A saloon and lumberyard had been operated by the family in connection with the grocery. One of the sons, Fred Coordes, the stepfather of Mrs.

Caress, had saved the paper for some reason, and had given it to her. His widow, Mrs. Nellie Coordes, lives on Soules avenue. The only surviving brother, Henry Coordes, is employed at Allen & Steen.

The Gazette commented on the "influx of turkeys to the city" for the coming Thanksgiving Day feast. "There will be regular Thanksgiving services at the Mulberry Street Christian Church on next Thursday morning . . . Union Thanksgiving services at Centenary . . . almost all of the pastors of the city participating."

The Tri-State Medical Society of Kentucky, Indiana and Illinois had met at Vincennes. Several Terre Haute physicians attended including Dr. Ezra Read, Dr. J. P. Worrall, Dr. J. B. Armstrong and Dr. Mitchell.

## Unusual Remedy.

Dr. Read read a paper on Traumatic Tetanus (lockjaw) drawing on his 50 years experiences in the medical profession. In his paper he told of treating successfully a case of lockjaw by the administration of whiskey, the usual remedies having been tried without producing their reputed effect. His patient drank in one week three gallons of whiskey—a little more than three pints daily.

Dr. Armstrong read a paper on "Pneumonia of the Wabash."

If the readers of 1876 wouldn't go to the doctors of the community they could read the patent medicine advertisements and perhaps find out what ailed them. Dope addicts could be cured of the "opium habit." Coughs could be stopped with Well's Carbolic Tablets "put up only in boxes." Pain could be stopped with Mustang Liniment which was guaranteed to have "often saved the life of a human being and restored to usefulness many a valuable horse."



Dorothy J. Clark

Those suffering from catarrh, lame back and loss of manhood could find help. The Swiss Ague Cure was made here in Terre Haute by Jules Houriet. Several hundreds of gallons of this local product had been bottled and shipped off the preceding week.

Two dentists had inserted box ads—Robert Valzah, with offices in the Opera House, and Geo. W. Ballew, at 119 Main street.

The GAZETTE was published by Wm. C. and Spencer F. Ball at 22 South Fifth street every afternoon except Sunday. The four-page issue of 1876 was 19 inches wide and 25 inches long with eight columns contrasting

with our 16 by 24 newspaper of today. Even the front page was filled with advertisements.

## "Hard Sell" Clothier.

One unusual ad read like this: "Leaders are few, followers many. There are some Old Fogies in the trade that are of no more use to the Purchasing Community than a boiled carrot hung in a boot-leg. The Boss is leading the Clothing Trade . . . we can show a fine line of Plaid Suits, very latest patterns from \$5.75 to \$22.50. Give us a call, and you will be happy." This message was signed "Joe" the Great Half-Price Clothing at the Boss Clothing House.

L. Goodman Jr. & Co. had two locations, in the Opera House Block and at 328 Main street. They were selling overcoats from three to ten dollars; fine all-wool beaver jersey and chinchilla overcoats from 10 to 20 dollars.

Furs were much in the news. D. Lelewer of Indianapolis had opened a branch fur store here at the corner of Fifth and Main. Sykes' Hat Store offered extra fine furs in mink, seal, otter and lynx. In addition they were selling seal hats plus children's fur turbans and school caps.

## Election in News.

The editorials were all concerned with the election situation in the Southern states. President U. S. Grant and his Secretary of War, J. D. Cameron were busy trying to untangle the alleged election frauds in Louisiana, and the other Southern states.

The first through pullman car ran from Louisville to Jacksonville, Florida, crowded with passengers.

J. Milton Turner, the colored U. S. minister to Siberia, was refused accommodations at the Astor House in New York City and used the hotel under the Civil Rights Bill for five thousand dollars damages.

In the lost and found department, Mrs. Geo. Atherton, who lived on Chestnut between Fourth and Fifth, lost her red morocco diary at the Union Depot. A reward was offered for its return plus the money and papers it contained.

Paige's Music Store had a six octave melodeon in a piano case for sale to some lucky church or school.

George F. Ripley & Co. were making improvements and managing the Terre Haute House.

The Western Bazaar advertised "striped India shawls in the very latest styles." Each afternoon and evening there was an auction sale of jewelry at O. Trask's store.

## Utilitarian Newspaper.

The GAZETTE office advertised "old papers for twenty-five cents a hundred. They are just the thing to lay under carpets, light fires

with, make bustles out of, or wrap up things in. They are the cheapest things going for all these purposes."

Thirteenth street was "being fixed up, but in the meantime, is about impassable." Work was to begin this week laying new ties and steel rails across the Vandalia bridge. The police were asked to remove barrels which were blocking the sidewalks along Main street.

Ernst Seeger owned the Centennial Barber Shop located downstairs at the southwest corner of Fifth and Main streets. He offered "good barbers and an attentive boot black and brush boy. Leeches kept constantly on hand and either applied or sold to the medical profession."

Back in 1876 there were reports of flying saucers or their equivalent. A paper balloon ten feet long and six feet through passed over the city and lodged in a tree on the Joseph Gilbert farm east of town (now known as Fruitridge avenue). Mr. Gilbert had the tree cut down and the torn balloon rescued. There were no markings to be found on it, and its place of launching was never discovered.

Yes, when this newspaper was printed the United States was celebrating its one hundredth birthday. The Civil War was over and its wounds beginning to heal. Business was good and things were on the rise, including the Wabash river. Terre Haute and the surrounding area had much to be thankful for that Thanksgiving Week in 1876.

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# Pictorial History of City Published in 1907

T.H. Tribune Star 8-6-67.

By DOROTHY J. CLARK

In 1907 The Gravure Illustration Company of Chicago published a slick-paper series of nine booklets entitled Art Work of Terre Haute, Ind. Many of the scenes of sixty years ago have been drastically changed, or have vanished with the arrival of modern progress. Many of the houses and business buildings have been torn down to make way for more progress, but several still remain.

In part 1 the history of this locality is told from the time of the Wea Indian village of Ouiatenon, which meant Rising Sun, to the building of Fort Harrison in 1811. Photographs in this section show two views of the Wabash River, the entrance and another view of the then new Highland Lawn Cemetery, the Indiana Estate Normal School, a scene in Forest Park, and the residences of

Walter E. Ely, general manager of Highland Iron Steel, on the southwest corner of Fruitridge and Wabash, and of George C.

Foulkes, real estate & loan business, at 1139 South Center street. Three other photos were included in this first booklet — a scene from the Country Club, St. Mary-of-the-Woods College, and clam (or mussel) fishing on the Wabash River.



DOROTHY J. CLARK

Part 2 showed an interior view of Emeline Fairbanks

Memorial Library, two scenes of the Wabash River, the lake at Forest Park, the bridge at St. Mary's, and the two elementary schools of Deming and the W. S. Rea School on north Fourth. Only one page was devoted to text, the telling of the Indian attack on Fort Harrison in 1812. The two homes were those of Jay H. Keyes, president of Standard Wheel Co., 723 S. 6th, and of Frank McKeen, vice president of McKeen National Bank, 705 S. 5th.

Part 3 offered another scene on the Wabash River, the lake, woods and chapel at St. Mary's, the Phoenix Club (now the Labor Temple) at the southwest corner of 5th and Walnut Sts., the Rose Orphan's Home, the Union

Depot showing the many train sheds and tower with cone-shaped top, an architect's drawing of the Terre Haute Trust Building (we know it as the Merchants Bank Bldg.) and the residences of Edward H. Bindley, of the Bindley Drug Co., at 618 S. 6th, and of Willard Kidder, proprietor of the Wabash Flour Mills, 456 N. Center. One page told more details of the 1812 Indian attack on Fort Harrison.

Part 4 contained another view from the Country Club, the exterior of the Library, the Wabash River looking north, and six residences. Homes of Herman Hulman Sr. of Hulman & Co., at 657 Ohio St., with its circular carriage drive and fountain; of Charles Minshall, president of Vitri-fied Brick Co., at 654 Cherry St.; John T. Beasley, attorney in law firm of Lamb, Beasley & Sawyer, and president of U. S. Trust Co., at 2120 N. 10th St. (the writer owned this property in recent years); Carl Leo Mees, president of Rose Polytechnic Institute, at 2209 N. 9th St.; Henry J. Baker, lawyer, at 1136 S. 6th, and Emil Froeb, Froeb Bros. Co., at 1114 S. 6th St. The text tells of dismantling by the government of Fort Harrison in 1822 and the role the Wabash River played in the development of Terre Haute—the coming of the first steamboats in 1822 and the thriving flat boat trade down river, also the beginning of the Wabash and Erie Canal.

Part 5 shows a scene in Forest Park, the Vigo County Courthouse, the site of Fort Harrison which was the residence of E. E. and A. D. Ehrmann in 1897, the residences of W. A. Hamilton, manager of Mutual Life Insurance Co., at 1227 S. 16th St., and of Wames H. Swango, an attorney, at 1205 S. 6th. Other scenes included were those of St. Mary's, boating on the Wabash, Allendale and the grandstand and race track at the Fairgrounds.

## Getting "City Airs"

The text of Part 5 told of the history of Terre Haute from the early fifties, the building of the Terre Haute & Richmond Railroad, the St. Louis, Alton & Terre Haute Railroad which linked this city with the new West, and

was credited with giving our town "city airs." The building of the National Road reached here in 1834, said to be the longest straight road ever built by any government and costing seven million dollars from Cumberland, Md., to St. Louis, Mo., connecting the Potomac with the Mississippi River.

Part 6 is illustrated with scenes of the bridge at Highland Lawn Cemetery (over dry ground in 1907), the Centenary M.E. Church, Rose Polytechnic Institute (still standing as Gerstmeyer High

School), Collett Park and City Park (possibly Steeg, but not identified), two scenes of the Wabash River from the Ehrmann residence at Fort Harrison, and the residences of D. E. Reagan, brick manufacturer, at 319 N. 8th St.; of Isaac T. Pierson, Person Bros., of 507 S. Center St.; of Horace C. Pugh, lawyer, at 329 S. 6th St., and Wm. R. McKeen, president, McKeen Bank, at 221 S. 6th St. The text deals with some of the early industries in Terre Haute such as pork packing, and the Civil War period.

Part 7 shows the lake at Forest Park, St. Benedict's German Catholic Church, the chapel at Highland Lawn, two rustic scenes at Allendale, the First Congregational Church, an unidentified city school, and the residences of E. P. Fairbanks, vice president and manager of Terre Haute Brewing Co., at 429 S. 6th St.; of John S. Cox, president, Terre Haute Automobile Co., at 931 S. 7th St.; of John Luken, manager A. Z. Foster Co., at 1600 S. 3rd St., and of Chas. W. Bauermeister, president, Bauermeister Co., at 503 Chestnut St. The text continues with the local Civil War history and tells of the leading parts played in statesmanship, diplomacy and politics.

Part 8 shows the suspension bridge at Forest Park, a boy with a goat cart in Collett Park, looking west from 8th and Wabash, St. Anthony Hospital hidden behind dense trees and picket fence in 1907, Union Hospital with the old frame farm house still standing south of the newer brick, and the residences of Dr. E. S. Niblack, at 1038 N. 8th St.; Dr. Edwin B. McAllister, at 31 S. 13th; R. B. Thompson, Van Line, at 1225 S. 7th; Dr. Charles Patton, at 1601 S. 6th; L. C. Whitney, National Drain Tile Co., at 722 S. 5th; and F. C. Goldsmith, Vigo Commission Co., at 602 S. 7th. The text continued with the listing of prominent Terre Hauteans.

## Pittsburgh of West

Part 9 contained another view of Rose Orphan's Home, the government building or post office which preceded our present one, and a Forest Park scene. The residences included those of Clemens W. Nagel, meat market, at 1411 ws. 6th (which is now the Historical Museum); Ray G. Jenckes, manager American Hominy Co., at 625 S. 6th; Frederick B. Smith, Merchants Distilling Co., at 1504 S. 6th; Morton T. Hidden, Hidden Houke Co., at 823 S. 6th; Wm. C. Ball, at 1138 S. 5th; and Crawford Fairbanks, president Terre Haute Brewing Co., at 402 S. 6th. The text ends with a brief biographical sketch of Chauncey Rose and the many reasons why Terre Haute was called "The Pittsburgh of the West" in 1907. Thirteen railroads centered here, interurbans, coal fields, fertile farming land, splendid educational institutions, industries shipping their products to all corners of the world, and, above all, "the spirit of civic pride animating every breast—proud of its past and hopeful of its future, we of today (1907 and 1967) can as little foretell what boundless possibilities are open to it in the future as could the hardy pioneer who blazed the way for this magnificent civilization that shall be his memorial until time shall be no more."

A copy of this 1907 Art Work will be on display at the Historical Museum for anyone who is interested to leaf through and enjoy scenes of



# Needlework Guild Served Community Many Years

By DOROTHY J. CLARK

Twenty years ago the Terre Haute Branch of the Needlework Guild of America decided to cease operations after nearly 40 years of service to the local community.

The president of the organization at that time, Mrs. J. C. Stimson, boxed up the record books, correspondence, etc., and filed them away for safe keeping. Recently she turned them over to the Vigo County Historical Society for future reference.

The object of the Needlework Guild of America, founded in 1885, and incorporated in 1896, was to "collect and distribute new, plain, suitable garments, to meet the great need of Hospitals, Homes, and other Charities, and to extend its usefulness by the organization of Branches."



Dorothy J. Clark

Special collections of Garments, etc., were taken at times of local, national or international disaster. The annual contribution of two or more new articles of wearing apparel or household linen, or a donation of money, constituted membership in a branch. Men, women and children could become members.

## Organized in 1904.

The local branch of this national organization was established through the efforts of Mrs. Frank C. Crawford and Mrs. Leonard S. Briggs. The first meeting of the Terre Haute Branch was held at the home of Mrs. R. G. Jenckes on March 13, 1904.

Mrs. Charles Hamill, president of the Chicago Branch, and Mrs. John B. Elam, honorary president of the Indianapolis Branch, addressed this first meeting explaining the work of the organization.

The following officers were elected: Anna B. Briggs, president; Mrs. Crawford, honorary president; Mrs. Lee Goodman, first vice president; Mrs. C. C. Oakey, second vice president; Mrs. D. C. Worsham, third vice president; Miss Ruby Faris, secretary, and Mrs. Jenckes, treasurer.

Thirteen sections were formed in Terre Haute, and presidents were elected for each of these groups: 1—Mrs. J. E. Piety, King's Daughters; 2—Mrs. Wilbur Topping, Central Christian Church; 3—Mrs. E. B. McAllister, Central Christian; 4—Miss Nellie Talley, Centenary M. E. Church; 5—Mrs. S. J. Austin,

First M. E. Church; 6—Miss Lucy Gray, United Brethren; 7—Miss Maria Smith, First Congregational; 8—Mrs. Lee Goodman, Temple Israel; 9—Mrs. L. B. Martin, St. Stephen's Episcopal; 10—Mrs. D. C. Worsham, Central Presbyterian; 11—Mrs. Thatcher Parker; 12—Mrs. Samuel Crawford McKeen; 13—Miss Laura Richardson, Catholic churches.

At the September, 1905, meeting, in addition to the

names previously mentioned, Mrs. Dan Reagan and Miss Beach were appointed to the executive committee. The Guild decided to have the "round up" of collected garments and linens in October, and ordered a printed report to explain to the public the work of this organization.

## Officers Re-elected.

Thirty-two ladies attended the first annual tea held at the home of Mrs. Crawford in June, 1907. The officers were re-elected each year, with changes only when someone moved from the city or passed away.

In 1910 the Washington Avenue Church ladies instituted Section 14 of the Guild with Mrs. George Hoffman as president. The round-up that year collected over 2,500 garments.

In 1912 the annual round-up was held at Temple Israel. In the morning the garments were received and sorted. After lunch was served to about 30 workers, several visitors came in to see the display.

Celebrating ten years of existence, Mrs. Briggs, president, entertained the Guild at her home in 1915. She introduced representatives from each of the Terre Haute charities that were helped by the Needlework Guild. Mrs. Mohr represented the Social Settlement; Miss Lena Reading, SOC and Crittendon Home; Mrs. John E. Cox, St. Anthony's Hospital; Miss Eliot, Union Hospital; Mrs. Briggs, Rose Ladies' Aid; Mrs. Schloss, Fresh Air Mission; Mrs. Paddock, Day Nursery, and there was no one present to speak for the Boys' Club, Light House Mission, or the YWCA.

## Youth Section.

Mrs. Cole and Mrs. Weinstein volunteered to organize a new local section for the purpose of interesting children in the work. This section was to be known as the "Twigs."

Later that year the Red Cross appealed to the Guild to "help the warring nations" by making bandages. In the summer of 1916 the ladies served lemonade to the soldiers passing through the city on their way to the Mexican border. Mr. Monninger, the H. B. Henley's, and the Chamber of Commerce helped on that project.

Reading through the early minutes of the Guild, I found that every year they averaged over 2,000 garments collected and distributed to the

needy through the local charities. In 1923 they collected over 2,600 garments.

Mrs. Joseph H. Weinstein tells me that she still remembers most vividly the round-ups at St. Stephen's parish house when the enormous stacks of donated garments and bed sheets were displayed on tables. Visitors would marvel that this comparatively small group of civic-minded women could accumulate such mountains of new bed clothing and wearing apparel by soliciting for their charitable purpose from their friends, neighbors and retail merchants.

After the death of Mrs. Briggs in April, 1941, the Needlework Guild suffered from the loss of their guiding light and strong leader. World War II was also to blame for the lack of interest and some members thought the Guild should disband.

Mrs. J. C. Stimson became president in 1942. In October of 1943 she called a meeting to discuss the question: "Will we continue the Guild?"

After much discussion those present voted eleven to four to discontinue the distribution of garments for the duration of the war. They informed the seventeen agencies to which they contributed garments of their action.

At the time of this action Mrs. John C. Warren was honorary president; Mrs. Stimson, president; Mrs. Fred Mohr, first vice; Mrs. Alfred Cornell, second vice; Mrs. Isaac Goodman, secretary; Mrs. Farley M. Williams, assistant; and Mrs. Louis Shatsky, treasurer.

In addition to the above named ladies, section presidents were: Mrs. Lee Black, Mrs. E. S. English, Miss Nellie Talley, Mrs. Jonas Waffle, Mrs. E. V. Smith, Miss Mary Gary and Mrs. Theo. Voight.

The record books of this fine organization can be wrapped up into a tidy bundle and placed on the storage shelves of the Historical Society's Museum, but the dedicated work of its members, the mountains of garments and linens given to needy persons, and the war work can never be measured in dollars and cents—only in the satisfaction of work well done.

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TS SEP 30 1979

# Growth marked the late 19th Century in Terre Haute

## Historically Speaking

By Dorothy Clark



In the years between Appomattox and the turn of the century, the America of our ancestors really began to take shape. It was a time of rapid change. Among the spectacular changes were the growth of population, the growth of industry and the rise of big business.

Industrialization brought startling changes in ways of living. People began to have more comforts and more leisure. More Americans went to high school and to college.

The expansion of manufacturing and trade led to a remarkable growth of cities. The cities drew many of their people from the farms. They also attracted millions of immigrants from Europe. By the end of the century, about 14 percent of the total population was foreign born. Terre Haute had a great percentage of German born citizens at that time.

In the 1880s, our streets were either badly paved or not paved at all. Toward the end of the century, brick, asphalt and macadam pavement began to replace cobblestones and mud.

The electric street railway replaced the horse and mule drawn street cars. Street lighting was improved, and fire protection was strengthened.

New comforts and conveniences appeared before the advent of the Gay Nineties. Gas and even electric lighting was replacing kerosene lamps. Hot-air furnaces were replacing the heating stoves. Telephones were found in many homes.

Women had so much more leisure time due to the sewing machine, commercial laundries, and bakeries

that by 1890 there were so many women's clubs that a national organization, the General Federation of Women's Club, was formed to link them together.

Increased leisure time caused the amusement business to expand. In the 1890s the variety, or vaudeville, show with its succession of songs, dances, acrobatic stunts, trained animal acts, and the like, became very popular. Musical plays and operettas also drew large audiences.

In the 1890s, there were about forty or more different circuses touring the United States. The Amusement Park was popular for holiday outings. Most such parks were sponsored by trolley car companies (as was Harrison Park located north of Collett Park and Butternut Hill). To build up passenger fares they gave them a place to go.

Bicycling became such a popular fad that by 1893 a million bicycles were in use.

By 1850 the classical style of architecture had gone out of fashion. More elaborate styles came in. Buildings were decorated with turrets, pinnacles, gables, and all sorts of ornamental geegaws. Even business structures, such as railroad stations and stores, were often decorated without regard for their purpose.

Examples of such architecture are to be found in an 1889 publication "Terre Haute Illustrated." Pictured in this nine-part local product were eight churches, ten public buildings, six schools, two orphanages, one old ladies home, two industries and 16 residences.

St. Stephens, Lutheran, Centenary

M.E. and Central Presbyterian look very much as they did in 1889. The other four have been moved to new locations. The old Universalist Church at 119 N. Eighth St. is now the site of the Hulman Civic University Center. The Congregational Church was where the former Deming Hotel now stands on the southeast corner of Sixth and Cherry, while the First Baptist Church was located then on the northwest corner of what is now part of the A.P. & S. Clinic parking lot. St. Patrick's Church in 1889 was farther west on Poplar Street than the new church which was built later.

Naylor's Opera House was on the northeast corner of Fourth and Wabash; City Market House, northwest corner Fourth and Walnut; St. Anthony's Hospital, old site of Terre Haute Regional Hospital at Sixth and College; Deming Block, northeast corner Sixth and Wabash; and National House, southwest corner Sixth and Wabash.

Also, the County Jail, northeast corner Water and Ohio; McKeen Block, 644 to 682 Wabash Ave., now a parking lot; Government Building or Post Office, Seventh and Cherry, but the building before the present one

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was built there; Headquarters of the Fire Department, still at 28 S. Ninth, but now extensively remodeled; and the Terre Haute House, the building before this present one was built.

Schools included in the Terre Haute Illustrated for 1889 were: Rose Polytechnic Institute, which became Gerstmeyer High School, and is now demolished; the High School, later known as Wiley High School, which is gone and the site of the new Vigo County Library; St. Benedict's German Catholic School; City School No. 3, 930 S. Third St., the former abandoned Crawford School; Coates College, 429 Osborne, established in 1885; and Indiana State Normal School.

The orphanages were the St. Ann's Orphan Asylum for girls on the northeast corner of Thirteenth and Fifth Avenue, and the Rose Orphan's Home, northeast corner of Twenty-fifth Street and the National Road, now the K-Mart parking lot.

The Home for Old Ladies, 1016 N. Sixth St., is long gone and the site of a new Housing Project. The Clift, Williams and Company Works was pictured, along with Phoenix Foundry, on Ninth near the Union Depot.

Photographs of residences included those of Harry J. Baker, lawyer, 1100 S. Sixth; Edward Gilbert, vice president and treasurer of Phoenix, 23 Gilbert Place; Frank McKeen, 655

Cherry St.; H. H. Boudinot, U. S. Commissioner; Theo. Hudnut, president of the Hudnut Milling Co., 627 Cherry St., and William Armstrong, manufacturer of surgical instruments, northeast corner of Center and Sycamore streets.

Also, Robert Andrew, secretary-treasurer of the Lancaster Block Coal Co., 1434 Chestnut St.; Col. R. W. Thompson, 1214 S. Sixth St.; Crawford Fairbanks, president Terre Haute Distilling Co., 402 S. Sixth St.; William R. McKeen, 221 S. Sixth St.; A. J. Crawford, president Wabash Iron Company, 405 S. Sixth St.; David W. Henry, 1200 S. Sixth St.; John N. Whonhart, contractor, 1101 S. Seventh St.; Jacob A. Parker, proprietor of the Eagle Iron Works, 903 S. Sixth St.; A. Arnold, clothier, 330 S. Sixth St., and James P. Crawford, secretary-treasurer, Wabash Iron Company, 709 S. Sixth St.



When fresh from the spring, the water sparkles with a surcharge of carbonic acid and is cool and pleasant to the taste.

The prominent medicinal properties are alterative, tonic, slightly aperient and diuretic. To correct acidity of the stomach, for most cases of dyspepsia, and for general debility, its use will be found beneficial.

Though public attention has but recently been called to these springs by a notice in the papers giving the qualitative analyses which I made last summer, yet, they have already been largely attended by invalids from various parts of the country, and the acknowledged benefits which the afflicted have received from the use of the waters, has demonstrated, practically, their hygienic virtues.

These Springs are but a few yards apart and situated in a beautiful valley which lies in the midst of a fine agricultural district, with charming scenery on every hand.

As already stated, they are reached by three railroads, and are within one mile of the flourishing city of Greencastle, which contains the Asbury University, one of the most celebrated institutions of learning in the West. In fact, the location, as regards the general health of the country, good society and cheerful scenery, is all that could be desired, to make the Springs a place of resort for invalids and those who seek a healthful and cool retreat from the cares of business during the warm summer months.

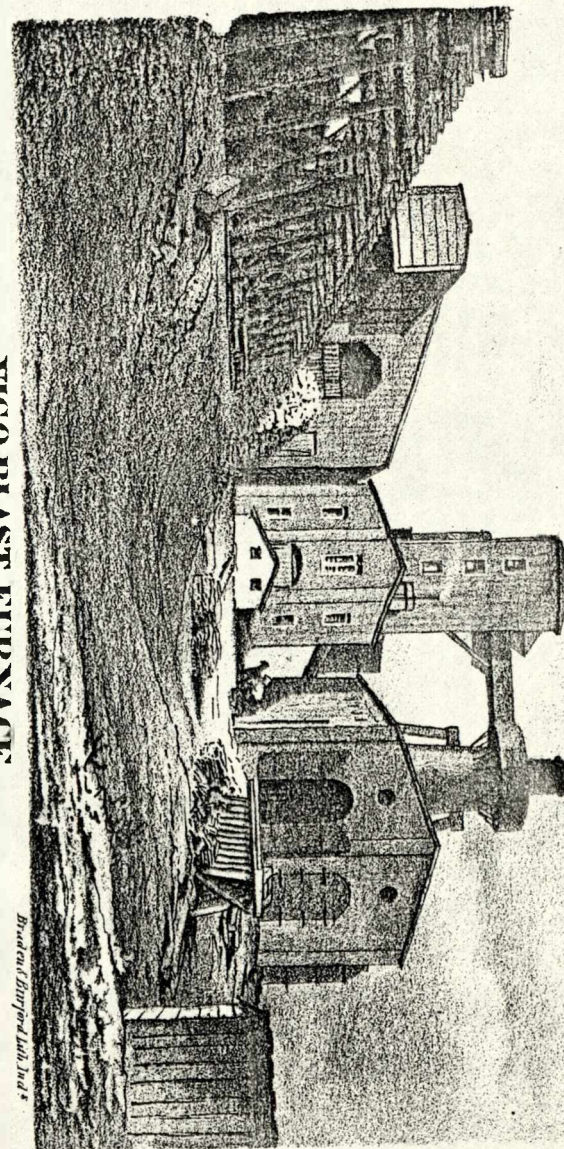
### VIGO COUNTY.

On the west side of the Wabash river, on section 9, township 12, range 9, on the St. Louis & Terre Haute Railroad, Messrs. Barrick & Co., have sunk a shaft to the same seam of coal which is mined at a number of shafts, a short distance to the east and one and a half miles from Terre Haute. This shaft goes by the name of "Sugar Creek Coal Mines." The shaft commenced eight feet above the level of

History (T.H.)  
1800-

Community Affairs File

VIGO BLAST FURNACE.  
Terre Haute, Ind.



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the Niagara limestone, at Chicago, holds imprisoned in its pores an enormous quantity of oil, and remarked, that the reservoirs which supply the wells in other districts, are fissures along anticlinals, which fissures, though sometimes occurring in strata above the oil-bearing horizon, in Ontario frequently occur in the Corniferous limestone itself. Hence the view held by some that the source of the oil, in that region, is to be sought in the overlying strata, is negatived. In Ontario, there intervenes between the Corniferous and Niagara formations the great saliferous series known as the Onondaga or Salina formation. This, however, is wanting to the westward, where the first two formations come together, and, according to Prof. Cox, where exposed at North Vernon, Indiana, are both oleiferous.

A well lately sunk at Terre Haute, Indiana, in search of fresh water, has shown the existence of a productive source of oil in that region. It was carried nineteen hundred feet, and yields about two barrels of oil daily. A second well, a quarter of a mile east of north from the first, now gives a supply of twenty-five barrels of oil daily. After passing through one hundred and fifty feet of superficial sand and gravel, the boring was carried to a depth of sixteen hundred and twenty-five feet, where oil was struck. According to Prof. Cox, the strata passed through are as follows: Coal measures, seven hundred feet; Carboniferous limestones with underlying sandstones and shales, seven hundred feet; black pyroschists, regarded as the equivalent of the Genessee slates, fifty feet. Beneath, at a depth of twenty-five feet in the underlying Corniferous limestone, the oil-vein was met with. The oil in the first well was found at the same horizon. A third well about a mile to the westward, was carried to two thousand feet, but only traces of oil were found. This locality, on the Wabash river is, according to Prof. Cox, on the line of a gentle anticlinal or uplift, which is traced a long distance to the west of south. This relation of productive oil-wells, to such anticlinals, was pointed out by Prof. Andrews and by myself in 1861."

*Vigo Blast Furnace:* A lithograph of this furnace is here given. It was built at Terre Haute by the Vigo Iron Company, and went into blast in the fall of 1870. A. L. Crawford is President, and A. J. Crawford is Secretary and Treasurer of the company. Raw block coal, obtained from the company's mines on the branch road south of Brazil, in Clay county, is the fuel used. The ores are from Iron Mountain and Merrimac. I am informed, by a letter from the company, that the stack is fifty feet high, open topped, twelve feet across the boshes, six feet in diameter at the hearth, and six feet across at the tunnel head; has seven tuyeres with three inch nozzles; temperature of the blast, 750° F.; pressure, two and a half to three pounds; stoves for heating the blast are after the plan of Thomas Over. The pipes for carrying off the waste heat are thirty inches in diameter. The blowing cylinder is six feet in diameter, and four feet stroke. The make is twenty-four tons of mill-iron per day, and no effort is made to produce any other grade of iron. Forty-eight hundred pounds of coal are used per ton of metal made. This is a first class furnace, and has been very successfully managed. However, it is my opinion that, with a closed top, the consumption of coal, already small, would be materially reduced.

#### BRIEF ACCOUNT OF THE GEOLOGICAL FORMATIONS ALONG THE NEW ALBANY AND ST. LOUIS RAILWAY.

New Albany is situated on the Ohio river, just below the great Falls; and at the foot of the "Knobs." It has a population of about fifteen thousand, and is largely engaged in manufacturing; among the most prominent are the Ohio Falls Iron Works; New Albany Rail Mill; Steam Forge; Star Glass Company, and New Albany Glass Works. The Star Glass Company have extensive houses and machinery for making all sizes of fine finished plate glass and mirrors, and are, also, largely engaged in the manufacture of window glass and bottles.



# Yarns of yesteryear homespun by Henry Housman

TS JUL 22 1979

## Historically Speaking

By Dorothy Clark

with tight boards eight feet high. He turned the area into an amusement park for the public's benefit and, also, to make Sunday and evening business for the street car system. The park was well patronized with entertainment provided by medicine shows, freak exhibitions, band concerts, cowboy and Indian shows, etc. Admission was 10 cents.

### Horse-pulling contests

The modern horse-pulling contests held at the county fairgrounds always reminded Housman of the show put on by Pilot Rock Tom, a mountain of a man, who defied the efforts of four big horses to pull him loose from a heavy wooden frame contraption to

which he was strapped. He was never "worsted." This strong man was the big attraction of a show promoted by Blue Mountain Joe, who affected loud, showy clothes, a big watch chain, and ten dollar gold pieces for buttons.

The Fourth of July civic celebrations held at this park attracted large crowds for the carnival and fireworks display at night. On one occasion, just before the display started, a violent rain storm came up and, in some manner, the stock of fireworks became ignited and the entire lot went off with a bang. Some serious casualties occurred in the crowd of people, and considerable property damage was caused in the nearby neighbor-

hood by the huge rockets and whirling fire wheels. Fireworks were really dangerous in those days, but the big profit of as much as 400 percent made the risk more tolerable to the seller.

In the 1880s, local residents were pestered by house-to-house peddlers selling books, sewing machines, mantel clocks, brooms, clothes wringers, fly brushes, zithers, lightning rods, tombstones, and tinware.

Mr. Rothschild, the tin peddler, would stop his big white horse and little wagon jingling with its assortment of pots and pans. He would take bones, iron, rags or money for these shiny items.

Whatever happened to the scissors grinders and umbrella repairmen?

Wago County Public Library

Community Affairs File

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The late Henry Housman had plenty of time to tell his stories following his retirement as a local printer. Born in 1875 in Terre Haute, Henry could recall seeing the lamp lighter making his twice daily rounds, caring for the kerosene lamps which lighted the intersections of several Terre Haute streets.

"He was a little feller," he recalled, "who came along mornings with his ladder, can of kerosene and a pair of shears to clean the lamp, fill the oil font, and trim the wick. He returned evenings and lighted the wicks with a sulphur match and adjusted the flame." According to Housman, the illumination from these lamps was none too bright, and on stormy nights "cast but a fitful glow."

Gas lights came next and were much better. Then carbon arc lights replaced the gas burners. In spite of a lot of sputtering and cracking, the light from these lamps was considered good. If they were still in use today, however, radio and television reception would be completely ruined by their electrical interference.

These lights attracted swarms of large beetles with a wing-spread of three or four inches. They also possessed a stinger and had to be handled carefully.

Every night when the lights came on, these swarms would arrive, circling around the sputtering carbon. When they became singed, they would fall to the ground, and each morning there would be a deep layer of them to provide a feast for toads and the larger birds including barnyard fowls straying from home grounds in search of these delicacies.

According to Housman, these bugs were called "electric bugs" and stayed here about three summers before they disappeared, never to return. Possibly they "burned themselves out."

### Ringgold Band

An employee of Hebb's Printing Shop in his younger days, Housman recalled that it was a gathering place for members of the Ringgold Band. Charley Pugh, George Weldele, Ab Pugh, Gus Werneke and Charley Warner all played with the band. They had the privilege of taking time off to play for a funeral.

Local fraternal orders, on the death of a member, gave the widow her choice of \$50 or the band — to have the funeral cortege preceded by a band on the way to the cemetery was something to remember. Each member of the band received two dollars, with double for the leader, and arrangements were always decided on

when they met at Hebb's.

A small boy remembers many strange and wonderful things about his home town as he grows older. Where Schultz is now, northeast corner of Fourth and Wabash, was the Naylor Opera House. The gallery was a boy's Heaven, where they chewed tobacco and whooped and jeered to their hearts' content, regardless of the hapless policeman stationed there to keep order.

At Fourth and Main streets, medicine shows held forth almost nightly. There would be a banana or an orange peddler on every corner Saturday nights, and competition was keen. Large ripe bananas sold two for a nickel. The hot dog vendor was always waiting for the show crowd to come out. Hot dogs, with mustard or chili sauce, sold for a nickel.

Sages's Cafe, later the Olympic, was one of the best eating places in Terre Haute. They sold delicious confections including ice cream made on the premises. A large wedge of fresh peach pie garnished with a wedge of yellow cheese was only a nickel. Big sugary doughnuts were two for a nickel.

### Bear killers

Loeb's Hat and Fur Emporium near Fifth Street, was represented by a huge black bear mounted on a wheeled dolly which was placed in front of the store each morning. According to Housman, that old bear's straw-filled carcass bore the marks of many a stabbing administered by youthful Daniel Boones. If the store keeper could run fast enough, the young bear-killer would get his pants kicked.

Biel's Tobacco Store exhibited the carved wooden figure of Punch (of Punch and Judy fame and now in the Historical Museum). Rottman's, Seaman's and other cigar and tobacco shops displayed the more conventional wooden injuns.

If you wanted a pair of shoes, the clerk would pull out the drawer under the glass counter and hand out a pair. Children's shoes were made on a universal last — no right or left. They were worn one way for a week, then swapped for the next to keep the heels straight. They became hard and wrinkled during the winter season.

The omnibuses and horses of the Herdic line were stabled in a grove between Osborne and Hulman streets on South Third Street. These barns acquired an unsavory reputation before they were torn down.

After the electric street cars came into use, Herman Hulman Sr. acquired the property and had it fenced



T.H. ADVOCATE, FRI.  
SEPT. 7, 1951

## In 1872 the Wabash Was a River Blue

By Henry M. Housman.

I have been fortunate in procuring a copy of a city directory published during the year 1872. There were earlier directories, but this one fills the bill.

This book lists the names of about 7,000 males, a few widows and spinsters. Wives are not listed. What! No wives?

The book also is an encyclopedia of information concerning an earlier Terre Haute.

A thousand stories of human interest probably could be gleaned from the list of names if they were known and could be told. A few will be related in the articles I will write.

Many of the men, whose names are listed, left behind an enviable record of city building. Some acquired wealth, some erected monuments of buildings, a few of which yet remain.

City officials were: Alexander Thomas, mayor; clerk, Frederick Schwingrouber; treasurer, John Paddock; attorney, W. W. Ramsey; marshal, Frederick Schmidt; deputy marshal, James O'Hara; engineer, Richard Strout; chief of police, Luther Gilmore; chief of fire department, William Van Brunt; street commissioner, A. P. Voorhees; market master, Daniel Vickery; sexton city cemetery, John D. Murphy; assessor, Washington Paddock.

County officials were: John T. Scott, judge court of common pleas; Martin Hollinge, clerk court of common pleas; Chambers J. Patterson, judge 18th judicial circuit court; J. C. Briggs prosecuting attorney 18th judicial circuit court; Thomas B. Long, judge criminal circuit court; S. C. Davis, prosecuting attorney criminal circuit court; W. H. Stewart, sheriff; John B. Meyer, recorder; Samuel Royse, auditor; James M. Sankey, treasurer; Robert Allen, surveyor.

Streets—North and south; west to east: Water, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, Center (6½), 7, 8, 9, 10 (the canal ran along here), 11, 12, 13, Central (13½), 14 to 22. However, as I distinctly recall, there was not much in the way of settlement east of 13½.

Streets north of Main (Wabash avenue)—Cherry, river east to the canal; Mulberry, river to Thirteenth; Eagle, river to Seventeenth; Chestnut, river to Nineteenth; Sycamore, Eighth east to Fourteenth; Liberty, Thirteenth east to city limits; Ross, First east to Third; Linton, river east to Fourth; Canal (Pennsy R.R.), river east to Seventh;

—Continued on Page 6—

T.H. Sept. 7, 1951  
TE ADVOCATE—Fri.

## In 1872 the Wabash Was a River Blue

—Continued from Page 1—

Tyler, river east to Thirteenth; Tippecanoe, Third east to Thirteenth; Elm, river, east to Thirteenth; Locust, river east to city limits; Third Avenue, Seventh east to city limits; Earley, Seventh east to Tenth; Mack, Lafayette east to Thirteenth; Lafayette, northeast from Third and Linton to city limits.

Streets south of Main—Ohio, river to city limits; Walnut, river to city limits; Poplar, river to city limits; Swan, river to the canal; Oak, river to city limits; Wilson, river to Fourth; Sheets and Crawford, First east to Sixth; Deming, Third east to Seventh; Park, First east to Seventh; Farrington, First east to Seventh; College, Sixth east to city limits; Vine (Cruft), First east to Third; Gookins, First east to Third; Moffatt (Washington), First east to Seventh; Gulick, Third east to Sixth; Willow, First east to Third; Osborne, Third east to Sixth; Grover, First east to Third (now Osborne); Hulman, First east to country (Seventh).

While only 7,000 names are listed, the city claimed a population of 20,000. The other 13,000 were no doubt on a hegira to Niagara Falls or other places.

Some 10 years later I learned at school that 25,000 people were living in the city.

Since the canal keeps butting into the story so often, my next article will deal with that historic waterway exclusively.

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VIGO COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY  
TERRE HAUTE, INDIANA

History (TH)



History (TH)

Sept 28, 1951

by—\$2 a Year in Advance

# Seventy-nine Years Have Passed Since 1872

HENRY M. HOUSMAN

Yes, and much water has gone under the bridge.

In my first article I have given you the names and location of our streets and avenues in '72.

Many of the original names have been retained, a few have been changed and many, many more added, keeping pace with the city's growth.

Now for a little more early history. The difference between 1872 and 1951 is only a matter of 79 years, but look where we are now! We are no longer classed as a town, but we can take a just pride in what we now possess.

General Charles Cruft, an attorney and civil war veteran, tells us that Terre Haute ranks fourth in the state as to population and business. The city was laid out by a company in 1819, styled the Terre Haute Company. Vigo county was organized in 1818 and Terre Haute became the county seat.

The growth of the city up to 1850 was steady, but not rapid. Since that date it has risen with constantly increasing ratio until now (1872), the "Prairie City" is the pride and boast of the Wabash valley, with approximately 20,000 inhabitants.

Surrounded by one of the finest agricultural districts to be found throughout the world, the opening of extensive coal beds, and quarries of limestone, all of them contribute toward making this city the center of a vast trade and the seat of extensive manufacturing interests, leading to a great future for us.

The reputation of the business men of Terre Haute has always been that of high-class, responsible gentlemen, ever ready to encourage and welcome every new enterprise and at the same time fostering the institutions of learning and religion.

General Cruft was also interested in several of our early papers and thereby was sometimes used as source for panhandling by tramp printers. I heard many stories anent to this. The directory lists Mr. Cruft as living at northeast corner of Sixth and Oak streets.

However, later, he resided in a spacious residence, near Tenth and Washington, in the center of the Cruft farm, which extended from 7th to 13th and from

—Continued on Page 6—

# Seventy-Nine Years Have Passed Since 1872

—Continued from Page 1—

College to Hulman. This building burned down in the 80s, after the General's death.

The area was abandoned as a farm, and later was platted out in residence lots and streets were laid through the subdivision.

I remember that my father pastured some of his horse herd Saturday nights and Sundays. They were used during weekdays for the grocery, coal and feed business which he conducted at Second and Moffatt, (Washington avenue).

Cruft farm is now occupied from boundary to boundary by residence and business buildings, with but a few vacant lots.

During the 80s the lower part was often covered with water, which was a feeding ground for water fowl and rabbits, and during winter made a safe skating place; it was very shallow.

When it was first opened, the sale of lots was not rapid and for a number of years squatters occupied make-shift dwellings, including several tents. I remember an incident which will recall Booth Tarkington's "Penrod." Most 10-year-old boys are potential Penrods by nature, if not in name. A ten-year-old boy is simply an animal, often fearsome and sometimes a dangerous one. I have good reason to know.

One Saturday morning a group of ten-year-olds were making an early jaunt in search of whatever adventure might come their way. Near what is now 10th and Hulman, we saw a big striped cat lying in the road. It been killed by some vehicle during the night. Yes, a wagon or buggy could run over a cat or dog and kill, as readily as an auto today. A boy picked up the cat by its tail and carried it along. "What you goin' to do with that dead cat?" he was asked. "Oh, I dunno, may have some use for it, never can tell!"

We were nearing a big tent staked out not far from the road. The front was open with the fly pinned back, to allow the air to enter. An old woman was seated in a rocker, fanning herself with a palmleaf fan.

Here was the place to make use of the defunct feline. With a mighty heave the dead body sailed in through the tent opening and landed at the feet of the occupant of the rocker.

We held our breaths for a moment and then following a natural impulse, we "beat it." We did take a look back however. The irate woman was standing before the tent, holding the dead cat. The words she used are unprintable and what she called us was plenty. She wound up her tirade by throwing the cat in our direction. So, you see, there is always a use for everything, even a dead cat. I really don't tell this incident as it really happened.

In the early 1900s my wife put the two kiddies in the perambulator and we went out Washington avenue, to look at some lots in the Cruft farm division, in search of a possible building site. There had been recent rain and we found a quagmire of mud and water and passed up the idea of building in the Cruft farm. It is much better there nowadays!

So much for the Cruft farm.

Back to Terre Haute in '72 next week.

T. H. ADVOCATE

(WEEKLY LABOR NEWS PAPER)

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Community Affairs File

VIGO COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

TERRE HAUTE, INDIANA



History (TH)

T. H. STAR

MARCH 21, 1916.

**Terre Haute Became  
Vigo County Capital  
98 Years Ago Today**

Ninety-eight years ago today Terre Haute became the county seat of Vigo County. The first plat or map of the city was recorded in the land office Oct. 25, 1816, in the recorder's office of Knox County at Vincennes.

The original town was located on east fractional section 21, containing 416.4 acres, and 28, containing 461.24 acres, in township 12, north of range 9 west, a total of 877.64 acres. This tract of land was bounded on the north by Locust street, on the east by Seventh street, on the south by Hulman street and on the west by the low water mark in the Wabash River.

The original town was divided into outlots and inlots. There were 268 inlots, bounded on the north by Eagle street, on the east by Fifth street, on the south by Swan street and on the west by Water street. An amended plat filed for record in 1825 added five additional blocks to the city, making a total of 308 lots in all.

In 1818 the State Legislature appointed five men to choose a location for the seat of justice, or the county seat, and three of the five men, Elisha Stout of Knox County, Marston Clark of Washington County and John Allen of Davis County, met and selected Terre Haute as the best place for the seat of government. Incidentally any information regarding descendants of these three men will be gladly welcomed by Herbert Briggs of this city, and any one having such information will please communicate it to him at his office in the school administration building.

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TERRE HAUTE, INDIANA

Community Affairs File

Vigo Co.  
Hist.



History (TH)

## SPECTATOR

February 10, 1923.

### WHEN TERRE HAUTE BECAME FIRST CITY

THE oldest document recorded in Vigo county is that one whereby Terre Haute was made the seat of the newly formed "County of Vigo." The original record, which is being preserved at the courthouse, was written March 25, 1818, nearly 105 years ago.

The leaves of the book containing this record are yellow and crumpled, but the ink has not faded a particle since the day it was written. The day it was 100 years old this record was copied on a typewriter and incorporated in another book, for fear something might happen to the original. Both are filed in the office of County Recorder John Grace.

The record reads as follows:

"Articles of agreement made and entered into this twenty-fifth day of March in the year 1818 between Ehlu Stout, Marsten G. Clark and John Allen—commissioners appointed by an act of legislature of the state of Indiana, entitled an Act for the Promotion of a New County off the County of Sullivan—for fixing the seat of justice for Vigo county. C. and T. Bullitt, Jonathan Lindley, Abraham Markle and Hyacinth Lasselle witnesseth that the said Ehlu Stout, Marsten G. Clark and John Allen, having selected the Town of Terre Haute as being the most central place for fixing the seat of Justice for the County of Vigo.

C. and T. Bullitt, Jonathan Lindley, Abraham Markle and Hyacinth Lasselle, proprietors of Terre Haute, for and in consideration of said place having been selected for purpose aforesaid, do oblige themselves, their heirs, executors, administrators and assigns in just and full sum, \$30,000, to convey to John Hamilton, Isaac Lambert, Ezra Jones, commissioners of the County of Vigo and their successors in office, for use of County of Vigo, forty-eight lots in said city of Terre Haute. Five additional blocks of lots, on same plan, on south side of city, to contain forty lots surveyed and plotted within ninety days from date.

"Curtis Gilbert, Recorder."

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Community Affairs File

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1-20-1924

# ICE HARVEST ON WABASH LONG AGO

Nearly Twenty Years Since the  
River Has Been Frozen Over In  
Front of Terre Haute.

Forty years make a deal of difference in most anything, and included in this is the weather in Vigo county and its results.

A few days ago, near the railroad bridge of the Big Four railroad company, the river might have been seen frozen over, although down by the Wabash avenue bridge, the current flowed as swiftly as ever.

The hard surface of the river at this point lasted but a short time, however, due to the fact that the cold weather did not endure.

Forty years ago, this would have been different. A freezing at that time would have been the signal for a score or more of horse-drawn wagons and plows to have made their appearance on the river.

At this time, during the late 80s and early 90s, ice came to the residents of Terre Haute through the natural medium, that of being frozen by cold weather. From the Wabash river, which now for the most part, through twelve months in the year, flows uninterruptedly on, hundreds of tons of ice were taken each winter, to be stored in the ice houses, of the city, and from thence to be distributed during the hot summer months, to individual users.

## The Good Old Days.

Dan Rånberger, assistant chief engineer of the Terre Haute Water Works company, recalls the time when Mike Kennedy, brother of Jack Kennedy, still well known to many residents of the city, together with Ezra and Si Morton, were among the most prominent ice cutters of this vicinity. Dan has been with the local water works company for the "short" period of thirty-nine years, since 1890, in fact, during which year he came to Terre Haute from Vincennes, where he himself had been an ice cutter, and he knows the Wabash, with its variable moods, as perhaps no one else in Terre Haute does. Dan was in Terre Haute as early as 1877, but left to go to Vincennes, returning here in 1890 to

work for the Terre Haute Water Works company, with which organization he has been ever since. He tell the story of those early days on the river much better than it can be repeated.

"It was nothing in those days," says Dan, "to see the Wabash river frozen over from early in December until late in February. Winter came earlier then and stayed later, and it was real winter. There were no such things in Terre Haute then as artificial ice companies. The breweries and the distilleries, and L. F. Perdue, who was the earliest ice cutter in this vicinity, got their ice from the Wabash.

"Many times I have seen Dad Perdue's men, and employes of the breweries marking out the ice cuts on the river. The next day, horse-drawn plows would cut through the ice to a depth of three to four inches, and then saws would be employed to cut the rest of the way through. Eight inches of ice would permit horse-plows and horse-drawn wagons, to go onto the river without danger. Very few accidents resulted. The blocks were cut twenty-four inches square, and then were housed in ice houses for summer use.

## Biggest Ice House.

Old Dad Perdue had his biggest ice house right here where the plant of the water works now stands, (Locust and Water streets), and he stored thousands of pounds of ice here every winter, for distribution during the summer. The breweries at that time also cut their own ice, although they did not have as elaborate a system as Perdue had. Perdue had machinery which would take the ice from the river, after it had been cut, and drag it up to his storage house. That's where he made his money.

"Skating? Sure! There used to be

lots of skating on the Wabash, but that was many years ago. There hasn't been much now for fifteen or eighteen years. The youngsters used to skate up and down and across the river for several weeks every winter, but the winters are not as cold now, and don't last as long. It takes a long, cold winter to make the river safe for skating and those winters don't come any more. Times have changed materially, since I was a boy."

Dan is right. Times have changed materially. Forty years makes a deal of difference.

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WINTERS DO CHANGE; BEEN ABOUT TWENTY Y.  
SINCE THHE WABASH FROZE OVER H



ON TUESDAY AND WEDNESDAY WHEN THE THERMOMETER REGISTERED AROUND ZERO HERE THE WABASH WAS MORE NEARLY FROZEN  
OVER THAN AT ANY TIME IN THE PAST TWENTY YEARS. THE TRIBUNE PICTURE MAN MADE THE ABOVE SCENE.

1-30-1927



# Terre Haute Skaters Enjoyed Natural Refrigeration In Old Days

Aug 15-49

By A. R. Markle.

Almost 75 years ago when Jimmy Bonner come to Terre Haute, it was a very different town from that which we know now. Contained roughly between Eighth avenue on the north, then known as Scott street, Fourteenth street on the east and Hulman on the south, the Wabash river, then as now, was the limit on the west. The heavy industry on the river bank was that of pork packing, soon to disappear as the great packing centers came into being with their year round production due to the introduction of artificial refrigeration.

## When the Hog Was King.

Beginning with the opening of the National Road, what had been only a small item in Terre Haute's spreading industry the packing and shipping of pork here grew into what was probably the greatest in the west. With the immense corn crops on practically virgin soil and with an outlet to the south that took all that could be produced, the most practical use for the corn was to convert it into pork or whiskey. The limit of the operation of packing and shipping by river was fixed by the low water in the summer and the hot weather that made slaughtering a risky game in the same season. While we are assured that the weather has not changed, it is an outstanding fact that the packer stretched his season by the storage of ice cut on the river during the long cold winters. Ten and 12-inch ice was cut and stored against the warm weather and with frozen roads, great droves of hogs were brought from as far as Indianapolis, while the nearer points in the surrounding counties furnished the corn fed and fattened hogs for the industry. The peak year of 1858 recorded 108,000 hogs slaughtered here while up river points showed like, though small, figures of production.

## Landmarks of the Industry.

Long after the packing houses were discontinued as centers of the industry, they stood along the river banks, used as ice houses for the storage of that product of the river. Still soaked with the grease of their former occupants, they went out in great columns of smoke as one by one they burned from one cause or another. No small boy could resist the appeal of those great fires and Jimmy was no exception. Along with the pork houses went the fires at the packing plants and distilleries, also monuments to the corn crops of the vicinity.

## The Fire Alarms.

One of the first bits of information gathered out of school by the youths of the town was the list, small at the time, of the fire alarm boxes. In those days when the alarm came in from the box, the big bell in the tower of the fire station boomed out the number of the box and when the sound of old Twenty-six, at the corner of First and Wilson, was heard every boy that could make his escape from whatever chore demanded his presence, started for the old Fairbanks distillery. Preceded at times by the burst of sound from a boiler, some of the boys got a head start and saw more of the fire than others who were unfortunate in being farther from the scene. And not only the boys ran but grown men dropped what they were handling and joined the crowd.

First on the ground was the No. 2 Company from Fourth and Farrington, followed closely by the 4's from North Third. The race between the station at Third and Sycamore and the headquarters crew on Ninth was close. With all the speed of the splendid horses on the old two-wheeled hose carts and the heavier steam engines many of the boys were able to reach the fire as soon as the department, usually outrunning the older men in the long run.

As there were no sewers until

the seventies water stood the year around in some parts of the town and provided wading places in the summer and skating rinks in the winter. One of these was north of Tippecanoe between the present Big Four and the C.&E.I. tracks where the water stood much of the year as there was no means of draining it.

There Jimmy first learned the joys of "rubber ice" on which one could run and as he passed the ice would give way almost to the breaking point and return successive parts sank under his weight. No one recognized connection between such play and the "chills and fever" were an annual recurrence to people of Terre Haute. Skating was not limited either by the lack of water, for in the winter the skaters all over town. After the first snow had packed hard, they could skate anywhere on the streets and the summer hay ricks were supplanted by sleighing parties which afforded more entertainment as closer snuggling was enjoyed under blankets and coverlets.

Other skating places were Conover's pond, north of Maple avenue at Third, Kennedy's pond, on the Myers estate east of the city; the South Mill pond near Thirteenth and Crawford where "Andy" Crawford has his iron and nail mill, and the big ponds in Sparks' field at what is now Tenth and Washington. The Wabash frequently was frozen over in winter in those days, and there was ice cutting and ice packing in saw dust filled ice houses from the Main street bridge to the Big Four bridge.

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Wabash Valley Historical Museum

Register



*Advocate*  
*History (TH)*  
**The Gay '90's Were  
Progressive Years**

Henry M. Housman.

The first attempt to pave Main street ended in a flat failure. The stretch between Canal and Tenth streets was dug out to a depth of two feet and a certain clay ballast (made of burned clay) was filled in to a one-foot thickness. After it was thoroughly tamped down it became very hard, but subsequent events proved that it did not wear well and heavy rains produced a muck that caused a lot of trouble. Okie Denehie tells me that his father's wagon mired in and literally had to be dug out.

However, paving Main street with brick was accomplished a few years later. Fourth, Fifth, Sixth, Seventh and Eighth streets were paved from Main to Cherry and from Main to Ohio about the same time.

One noon, while Fifth street was being paved, someone tied a large tin can to the tail of a big black and white dog and started him off. The disturbance brought out everyone along the street and the last I saw of the poor beast was as he disappeared in a cloud of dust near the Filbeck Hotel. I am glad that this cruel practice is no longer indulged in.

From the Mail, Nov. 23.—An American correspondent characterizes the Prince of Wales as the best of the British and a fit successor to Queen Victoria.

Sam Jones, a noted pulpit exhorter, says there is no hope for the man who lets his wife get up in the morning to build the fire. Such a man will find a hot fire awaiting him in eternity. No man will hesitate to say that Sam talked too much.

The Gazette, Sept. 24, says that E. O. Ebel has just issued a new city and county directory, 748 pages for the city and 156 for the county. A comprehensive street directory is a feature of the publication.

President Ben Harrison has returned to Washington after a sojourn at Cresson Springs, Pa.

Brazil block mines were on strike, asking a daily wage of \$2.

Dave Hawkins, a local Lorenzo Jones, is receiving many orders for his recently patented nail-puller.

A new boiler plant has been installed at the water works station.

Hanley & Co. are delivering election booths.

County Treasurer Couzman has been notified to remit local taxes to the state treasurer, the state's funds being at a low ebb.

Mrs. Wormer, librarian at the Public Library, states that the

—Continued on Page 6—

## The Gay '90's Were Progressive Years

—Continued from Page 1—  
reading public is demanding a better class of reading matter.

Between paragraphs of reading matter in the Express are lines reading: "Children Cry for Precter's Castoria." They call it Fletcher's nowadays.

Veno, a quack doctor, located at the National House, advertises free treatment for any and all for a period of one week. Ailments of any nature will be dealt with.

From the Daily News, Sept. 18, 1890: The Sanford Fork and Tool Co., South Third street, in hands of a receiver, has been bought by local capital. Buildings, machinery, raw materials and finished products are involved in the sale.

Schuler, the hatter, advises men not to buy hand-me-down pants. He has over 800 samples of fine pants material which he will make up for less money and guarantee a perfect fit.

C. Bird King, a reformer on the city council, has presented an ordinance demanding the enforcement of the state saloon closing law.

This was overheard at a local hotel:

One maid calling to another—  
"Jane, bring me some hot water from the kettle."

Jane—"There ain't no hot water in the kettle."

"What? No hot water in the kettle?"

"No. No hot water in the kettle."

"Well, I'll be durned."

It's too late now to stop me on this one. I've already put it over.

Community Aff

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# Interesting Information From An Old Newspaper

By DOROTHY J. CLARK

Back in 1861 if a local resident wanted to send a letter by Pony Express, e could apply at the office of the American Express Company, northeast corner of Fourth and Ohio Sts. M. S. Wasson, the agent, advised that letters and telegrams received at his office would be forwarded to St. Joseph, Mo., with promptness and would arrive in San Francisco in ten days. Letters weighing a half ounce or under cost two dollars, and another two dollars was added for every additional half ounce or fraction.

On the Terre Haute retail market one could buy potatoes for sixty cents a bushel, lard for twelve cents a pound, eggs for eight cents a dozen and take your choice of either whiskey or vinegar at twenty cents a gallon. Three kinds of coffee were listed: Rio at fourteen cents a pound, Lagyura at sixteen, and Java at twenty.

Beeswax, candles and feathers were only a few of the items not listed a century later.

Two dentists were listed: S. B. Smith, between Third and Fourth on Ohio; and C. O. Lincoln, 101 Wabash St., over Bartlett's Bookstore.



DOROTHY J. CLARK

J. H. Turner and Wm. McKeen were commission merchants, dealing in grain, flour and salt. Their warehouse was on the Canal, near the Terre Haute & Richmond and E. & C. Railroad Depots.

The Western Union Telegraph office "connecting with all lines in the United States and British provinces" was located in Commercial Row, corner Fourth and Wabash Sts. over the Southern Bank with the entrance on Fourth street.

To read the newspapers of 1861 intelligently, it was necessary to know the different downtown business locations by name and where they were. For example—Commercial Row was on Wabash St., between 4th and 5th Sts. This information helps the present day reader locate (in his mind only, for these business places are only

memories. Philip Nicoloy's premium art gallery, upstairs over No. 109 Commercial Row.

Simeon Cory operated a hardware business at No. 103. Oliver Bartlett was the Bookseller and Stationer at No. 101. Jas. R. Tillotson was the watchmaker and jeweler at No. 99.

Mechanic's Row was also on Wabash but between 5th and 6th Sts. Here one could find G. W. Patrick & Co., druggists, at the corner of 6th and Wabash. J. U. Patrick ran the grocery store at No. 11. W. A. Griswold, hardware, could be found at No. 8.

At No. 87, Warren's Block on Wabash St. was the G. Weiss & Co. They were prepared (according to their advertisement) to furnish by barrel or bottled for the family London or Philadelphia Porter, Scott, Dayton or Madison Ale, and Detroit Cider.

Names mentioned in the legal notices and sheriff's sales were: Judson Loomis who was suing Ezekiel Birdseye; Isaac Balding, Wm. H. King, Charles Bentley, James Ray, and Dorothea Blinn, administratrix of her late husband Horace Blinn's estate, who was suing James H. Jeans. The sheriff at that time was Samuel Conner.

Community Affairs File

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## Quick Funerals

Typical of the wordy ads in those days was the lengthy one of undertaker, Isaac Ball, who would "most respectfully inform those in want of anything in this line, that he is prepared to furnish Funerals on short notice. I have now on hand the best assortment of Undertaking Trimmings ever brought to this city. Being the oldest Undertaker in the city I trust I can give better satisfaction than has ever been given in this city. I can be found at my old stand, corner of Second and Cherry streets, where I keep on hand, constantly, Marshall's Casket Cases, the only case now in general use. Wooden coffins of all kinds. Cloth and velvet covered coffins — in a word, every thing in the Undertaking line will be promptly attended to, either by night or day. Bodies Preserved any length of time desired. Carriages furnished to order."

Another undertaker in town in 1861 was J. C. Walter, at 142 Main Street, between Fifth and Sixth streets.

One hundred years too late we read in the paper that "I will set a free lunch at my Restaurant every morning from 10½ to 12 o'clock, when I will be pleased to see my friends and patrons — signed C. Kern." What a stampede this ad would start if it were to appear in 1964!

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TERRE HAUTE, INDIANA



Community Affairs File

Nestory (7H)

TERRE HAUTE TRIB.

# Early Terre Haute Life Is Described in Letters

Community Aff

By DOROTHY J. CLARK

Nearly half a century ago several former residents of Terre Haute were contacted and asked if they would write down some of their memories of their years in this city.

Bessie Barr, living in Kirkwood, Mo., in 1923, told of her family in Terre Haute. Her father, Thomas H. Barr, was the third of four brothers who came from Zanesville, Ohio, to Terre Haute in the early fifties. Although he was the most delicate one, he outlived the others.

Mr. Barr engaged in the drug business in Terre Haute, a member of the firm, Barr, Gulick & Berry. Her mother was Helen Eaglesfield, second child of William Eaglesfield, who was in the lumber business here with Junius Leake. Miss Bessie Barr was a graduate of the Terre Haute Female College.

J. L. Oakey, president of the California State Bank at San Bernardino in 1923, told a swimmin' hole story. He wrote: "I remember the Wabash & Erie Canal that ran through Terre Haute and up past Fort Harrison, and I remember an ol' swimmin' hole in the canal back of the William Stewart place on N. 7th St., and how a Baptist Sunday School picnic was returning from the Fort upon a canal boat and a lot of we small boys were swimming in the canal and as the boat came in sight, we ran away to hide, leaving our clothes on the bank. When someone jumped off the boat and picked up one of my boots, I chased after them, begging them to throw it off."

Thomas A. Lawes, aged 72 years in 1924, told of his visit to Terre Haute the previous year. He went

out to Woodlawn Cemetery and paid a visit to the Lawes family lot "where a broken column marked the site of father's grave." His father died in 1859 and for years his

only one grave was the only one on the lot. In 1923 the lot was full. His grandmother, father and mother, Thomas E. Lawes; an uncle with his wife and two daughters and an aunt were buried there.

While in Woodlawn Cemetery he visited the grave of his boyhool sweetheart whose tombstone was inscribed with the dates 1857-1882. It seems they drifted apart, she married one of his friends and Lawes married another, but he never forgot her.



DOROTHY J. CLARK

When asked about Benny Hayes and his school, Mr. Lawes remembered the following boys and girls who attended at the time he was Stewart, Sam Paddock, the Ripley boys, Frank Briulebank, George Hebib, Mary Reeves, Tom Cookerly, John Warren, Charles Appleby, W. H. Peddle, Ed Schmidt James Gill, Harry Rugan, Ed Sibley, Scott Bell, John and James Oakey, Thomas McLean, James and Will and Mary Hedges, Wm. S. McLain, Barney and Dick Reagan, John Clift, Tom Cottom, Flora Button, Wm. Lawes and Harry Gilbert.

## Applied Ruler

Mr. Lawes remembered Benny Hayes as "a very capable teacher, somewhat of a martinet. He was a strong believer in corporal punishment. For minor offenses he

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took the culprit's hand, palm up, and gave it a few raps with a ruler. For a greater offense the ruler was applied to the culprit's physique. He had a good trait which some may not remember. He would

not use the ruler on my brother Will or myself. As he announced it, he would not beat the children that had no father to take their part, so

Continued On Page 5, Col. 1.

## Dorothy Clark

Continued From Page 4.

le

our punishment was meted out to us by keeping us in after school."

Continuing his memories of his school days, Mr. Lawes recalled that Mr. Hayes had a poor memory. "He would tell a scholar to stay in after school and promptly forget that he ever said it. Scholars noticed this lapse of memory and when school let out would march out with the innocent and Benny would never remember the pupil was requested to stay in. However, once in a while, one of the scholars would tattle to the teacher that a delinquent scholar marched out and then trouble began. One had to run the risk of being reported."

Mr. Lawes remembered that one one occasion there was a great snow ball fight with the German boys who had a school in the north end of the Seminary building. "I remember that John Gordon was struck with a snow ball containing a stone, and his skull was fractured. He lay between life and death for many days. Every day the teacher would report to the scholars his condition, and exhort us not to put stones in snow balls."

One of Mr. Lawes prized possessions was a photograph of the old Seminary taken by photographer Eppert. He had it framed and hung on the wall. (Visitors to the Historical Museum can see this photograph hanging in the northeast room.)

At the age of 70 years in 1922, Mr. Lawes retired on a pension from the Nickel Plate Railroad with the right to travel on a pass anywhere in the United States and Canala. After retirement he traveled all over the world returning to Terre Haute every year or so to renew friendship as his path crossed Indiana. He lived in Philadelphia with a daughter. He also had a son William Lawes.

Old diaries and letters tell us much of Terre Haute's earlier history. Anyone knowing of such papers are urged to contact this writer.



## Terre Haute at turn of century— points of interest for sightseers

TS APR 23 1978



Community Affairs File

Seventy-five years ago, John D. Bell, chairman of the committee for the Old Boys convention to be held in Terre Haute, marked 114 points of interest for sightseers.

The list was printed for the benefit of those who had the task of personally conducting the Old Boys and Girls about the city during their visit here.

The guests were to be shown St. Mary-of-the-Woods College, Polytechnic (now Rose-Hulman, then located at 13th and Locust), the State Normal (now Indiana State University), the High School (later Wiley and now the site of the new Vigo County Public Library) and some of the district schools.

The new churches, namely St. Benedict's, Centenary, First Congregational, First Methodist, were open for inspection.

Guides were reminded to "tell the old fellows that Hulman & Co.'s great store, the finest wholesale grocery in the west, is on the site of Dave Phillips' Pig & Whistle saloon."

Practically all of the hotels had been rebuilt or remodelled within the past 15 years (1889-1904). The Fairbanks Library was under construction, as was the present river bridge. The Union Station with its beautiful park, as well as the Big Four station were show-places.

Visitors were sure to be interested in the biggest brewery in the state and the biggest distilleries in the world, and were taken to the race track where Axtell made his record as well as many other world's records.

So great were the changes in the banks that the Old Boys were not expected to recognize any of them.

The Buntin House, 1855, later the St. Charles, was the Peyton, Third and Walnut, in 1904.

Groverman's residence, 1843, was the Old Chadwick House between Third and Fourth on Ohio.

The 1840 Congregational Church, Sixth and Cherry, was partly torn down. Judge Gookins' residence, 1848, was then Coates College on Osborne St. Judge Deming's home, 1843, was still at the southeast corner of Sixth and Walnut. J. K. Graff's home, 1848, was then Dr. Jenkins' residence on Ohio Street.

Chauncey Rose's home, 1838, was the home of Miss Hemingway, northeast corner of Seventh and Chestnut, in 1904 (now Lab School).

Sibleytown, 1840, was all north of the old canal. John Buntin's residence, 1844, was the back building of the Filbeck in 1904. The Old Pavillion became the site of the Filbeck Hotel.

The site of Early's pork house, northwest of Water Street, was north of the Vandalia Railroad. The 1851 residence of M. Byers was on the southeast corner of Fifth and Mulberry. The 1844 home of D. Bell was the residence of Max Myers.

The Fourth Brick House in 1904 was the front part of the stable located at the northeast corner of Third and Walnut.

The site of Joe Miller's pork house, 1840-46), was at the northwest corner of Water and Chestnut where the hominy mill was later located. Warren's pork house was located about 100 feet south of the Big Four Railroad, on the west side of Water Street. William Miller's hog slaughter house, 1843, was west of Water street, and south of the Big Four. His 1843 residence was a brick home on the east side of Water Street.

The cemetery, established in 1818, was west of Water Street and north of the hominy mill. Blaize's mill, 1854, was southwest of Water and Chestnut. J. M. Tolbert's residence, 1844, was south of Chestnut and east of Water. T. B. John's mill, 1855, was on the northeast corner of Water and Mulberry.

Jacob Ryman's residence, 1852, was at the southwest corner of First and Mulberry. J. Minich's residence, 1843, was a brick house at the northeast corner of First and Mulberry.

Welches' Tavern, 1850, was located at the northwest corner of First and Cherry. Dr. Ball's office and residence, 1840, later the Social Settlement, was on the southwest corner of First and Cherry. Billy Ramage's home, 1843, was on the southeast corner.

The Eagle & Lion Tavern, 1838, was on the southeast corner of First and Main. The Clark House, 1852, was a wagon yard in 1904 at the northwest corner of First and Ohio. The Market House, 1834, was the site of City Hall, northwest corner of Fourth and Walnut.

John Burgett's boarding house in 1844 became the Early House, and the Pavillion Tavern, 1840, became the Filbeck House.

The old railroad depot, south of Wabash Avenue, was near the Southern Indiana railroad tracks in 1904.

Farrington grove was between Third and Fifth, south of Park Street. Monkey Field or Early Grove was opposite Woodlawn Cemetery. Indian

Orchard was on the hill of the Waterworks.

Camp Vigo was located opposite the north end of Collett Park. Camp Dick Thompson was located on the north side of the Bloomington road south of where Lakeview Park was 75 years ago. The show grounds in 1850 were located on the block between Fifth and Sixth and Main and Ohio streets.

L. H. Scott's residence, 1840, on the southwest corner of Third and Ohio, was built by one of the Lintons. Scott married Linton's widow. Linton's home, 1836, later was the old Ross office on Ohio, and was known as Linton's Block in 1904.

Dr. Daniel's home, 1840, became Dr. Roberts' at Seventh and Ohio. Dr. Reed's home, 1844, became the Nicholson Block.

The points of interest on the 1904 guide list will be continued in next Sunday's column.

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History (TH)

## More of the 114 attractions listed at the turn of the century

Community Affairs File

TS APR 3 01978



Last Sunday's column began the listing of John D. Bell of the 114 points of interest to be pointed out to the Old Boys convention while visiting their old stamping grounds.

The National Road House, 1838, became a theatre east of 10th on the south side of Main street. The Prairie House, 1834, was on the site of the present Terre Haute House.

The Wabash & Erie Canal locks of 1850 were at 2nd and Chestnut.

Wallace's foundry of 1843 was located at the southwest corner of 1st and Swan. The Wallace residence, 1843, became the old Link property.

Nippert's store, 1844, was located on the northwest corner of 2nd and Ohio. Bement & Viehle store, 1844, became the wool house of Jonas Strouse on Second street.

Dowling Hall, 1863, which later became Miller's bakery, was located where Forrest Sherer's offices are now.

J. D. Early's store in 1840 was on the northeast corner of 2nd and Main. The Stewart House, 1842, on 2nd north of Main, became the old Ryan stable.

The Green Tree Tavern, 1860, was located on the southeast corner of 2nd and Cherry. McQuilkin's Tavern, was on the northeast corner of 3rd and Main, and the Sloan Tavern, 1846, was north of Main, west of the alley, between 2nd and 3rd.

The Old Blue Brick, later C. C. Smith & Sons Co., was on the southeast corner of 3rd and Main, and is again painted blue.

R. W. Thompson's residence, 1845, later the home of J. A. Juergen, was at the southwest corner of 4th and Main. Recruiting headquarters for the Mexican War in 1848 was on the opposite southeast corner.

Dole's livery stable, 1843, was located on the southeast corner of 3rd and Cherry. The Mansion House, 1843, was located on the northeast corner of 3rd and Mulberry. Mrs. Taylor's residence of 1840 became the home of her son-in-law and daughter, the Isaac Ball's.

King's Oil Mill, 1842, was on the northeast corner of 4th and Ohio. The First School House was on the northeast corner of 5th and Walnut. Hussey's tavern, 1836, was on Walnut between 1st and Water.

The first post office, 1818, northeast corner Water and Ohio, now the jail, was also the first frame house. The second post office, 1840, was north of Ohio, east of the alley between 1st and 2nd. The third post office, 1847, was east of 5th and south of Main. The fourth was a brick building built in 1852 south of Juergen's store. The fifth was on the east side of 6th, south of the alley between Main and Ohio, and the sixth post office was built in 1887.

The State Bank of Indiana, 1836, was the old Curiosity Shop on Ohio between 2nd and 3rd (now known as Memorial Hall).

The first brick house was on the southeast corner of 1st and Swan; the first brick store room, southwest corner 2nd and Ohio. The first church stood on the northeast corner of 4th and Poplar, and the Universalist church of 1844 stood on the southeast corner of 4th and Ohio.

The Spinning Wheel corner became the Naylor-Cox block, northeast corner 4th and Main. Locust Corner was at the northwest corner of 3rd and Main.

The Town Hall of 1843 was on 3rd street north of Ohio on the east side. The first jail, 1824, was on the northeast corner of 2nd and Poplar; second jail, 1832, northwest corner 3rd and Walnut; and present jail, Ohio and Water streets.

Dr. Modesitt's residence, 1836, was at the southeast corner of Ohio and Water. Button's distillery, 1835, was on the southeast corner of Water and Oak.

St. Stephen's Episcopal church, later the Adelphi theatre, 1866, and later Kuhn's stable, was on 5th between Wabash and Cherry.

Baum Garden, 1843, was on the southwest corner of 5th and Oak. Britton's Garden, 1842, was on the southeast corner of 5th and Poplar.

The first theatre, 1840, was on the south side of Mulberry, east of 2nd street. The St. Charles hotel, 1855, was on the southeast corner of 3rd and Mulberry. Henry Rose's residence, 1846, became the Minshall home on Cherry street.

John Sibley's mill, 1852, was located on the northwest corner of Elm and Lafayette. The Redford House was on the Faust corner on Lafayette St. The first house on Section 16 was built in 1838 east of 4th and north of 8th Ave. The first bridge across the Wabash river was built in 1847 at the foot of Ohio street. The canal bridge was built in 1857 at 9½ and Main streets.

The brewery in 1845 was located on the northeast corner of Water and Cherry streets. Glick's Brewery, 1854, was where Kidder's Mill was located in 1904. Longdon's Ferry in 1838 was at the foot of Main street. The Silk Worm House was built in 1844 at the northwest corner of 6th and Eagle.

The Preston farm house built of stone was on Poplar east of 13th (where it is now in dilapidated condition). The Jewett farm house was located on 14th north of Chestnut.

The Old Stage Line yard became the site of the home of George H. Hebb, 418-422 N. 5th St. The old circus grounds was opposite the Terre Haute. The old boom logs, located at the foot of Mulberry street, furnished a swimming hole for the Old Boys.

The Rebel Prison, later Wabash Distillery bond warehouse, stood on the hill southeast of the corner at 1st and Park streets.

The Imbrey brewery was located on the northwest corner of 7th and Sycamore.

The home built by Colonel R. W. Thompson in 1851 became the residence of William C. and S. F. Ball on South 6th street below College Ave. Sam McDonald's "Rowdy Hall", later remodeled by Col. Thompson, became the home of J. H. Wathen on South 6th below College.

All the Old Boys and Girls, classmates in the Old Seminary School where the ISU campus is now, must have enjoyed nostalgic tours of the city while here for the 1904 reunion. One of the omissions they would have noted was the Morris Grocery located at 5th and Ohio where the Old Baldwin church was located in their time.

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History  
(TERRE HAUTE)



1888  
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Archives - CAF



# Tragic Civil War incident recalled

TS NOV 11 1984

After the turn of the century, Harper's Monthly ran a feature story of one of the most tragic and mysterious happenings of the Civil War. The article revived memories of one of Terre Haute's most honored citizens, soldier and jurist, Col. John P. Baird.

Baird was a graduate of the law school of the State University at Bloomington, Ind., and after a brilliant career of 10 years was commissioned colonel of the Eighty-Fifth Indiana regiment and served creditably for two years.

His two months confinement in the Libbey Prison together with the lasting impression made on his young mind by the court martial trial of the two spies, Lt. Walter G. Peter and Col. W. O. Williams, under his command, caused his health to fail. He was compelled to return to Terre Haute where he resumed his legal practice.

In 1876 his constitution again broke down, and the following year an impairment of the mind was noticeable. He consented to be taken to the Indiana Hospital for the Insane where he died after five years confinement. There was no doubt that the awful circumstances of this execution affected Col. Baird's mind, bringing on the attack of insanity.

It all began June 8, 1863, a hot evening at Fort Granger, on the crest of Figuer Hill, near the little town of Franklin, Tenn. Rosecrans sulked at Murfreesborough; Bragg, at Tullahoma, lay in wait for him. But the cavalry of the south waited for no man. They menaced everywhere but most of all at Franklin, the federal right, an outpost weakened now by the withdrawal of all but two regiments and a small force of cavalry.

## Historically speaking



Clark is Vigo County's official historian and formerly worked for The Terre Haute Tribune.

By Dorothy Clark  
Special to The Tribune-Star

Franklin had been attacked June 4, and Col. Baird had beaten off the attacking force. Since then they had waited, expecting Forrest, dreading Wheeler, and certain of the return of the rebels from Spring Hill, six miles to the south.

As commandant of Fort Granger, Baird sat in his tent door talking with Col. Carter Van Vleck. Two men rode out of the dusk, two unattended, unescorted strange officers. Baird rose to greet them. He noticed they were superbly mounted. Their uniforms and equipment showed them to be officers of rank and distinction.

Baird and Van Vleck stared at the strangers' new merino havelocks, which were unknown to officers and men, either north or south, except as something "foreign." The elder and taller of the two introduced himself as Col. Auton of the Army of the Potomac. His companion was Major Dunlop, assistant in the inspection of western troops ordered by Washington, D.C.

They told of seeing Gen. Rosecrans at Murfreesborough and Gen. Gordon Granger at Triune. They could not stay the night but planned to go on to Nashville. While their passes were being issued, they told of being attacked by the rebels, their servant being captured, and of the loss of a coat and their money before escaping. They asked to borrow money for immediate expenses.

Baird didn't have the money, but asked Van Vleck for funds. He replied that he did not believe the men's story and thought they were spies. Baird asked to see their papers and read them thoroughly before he was satisfied, handed them back, and apologized for doubting them. He found \$50 for them, gave them a pass, gave them the countersign, and wished them Godspeed.

They had no sooner disappeared in the night before Baird thought of possible forgery. He could not decide what to do, let them go or

order them brought back. He consulted Col. Louis D. Watkins of the Sixth Kentucky cavalry, telling him the story, his suspicions, Van Vleck's outspoken charge, and immediately urged the men be brought back.

The spies were searched and concealed by the havelocks on their hatbands were their names and ranks in the Confederate Army — Lt. Walter G. Peter and Col. L. O. Williams.

Williams was 25 years old, his cousin Peter was 21 years. They had been close companions all their lives, the younger always blindly following his older cousin. It was surmised later that he had never known the real reason for entering Federal lines.

The drumhead court martial, the swiftest and most terrible of all courts of law, was convened at midnight by candlelight. The prisoners were brought in. The trial began of spies who had made no attempt to gain information, and carried no drawings of fortified locations or other papers condemning them. Their intention was never learned.

One hour later the trial was over. Baird telegraphed Garfield that Williams was a first cousin of Gen. Robert E. Lee, and was chief of artillery on Bragg's staff. Garfield replied that the guilty spies should hang. At dawn the chaplain reported to a haggard and listless Baird that the condemned men had written letters to relatives and business associates. They asked to be shot instead of hanged. Baird tried once more to appeal for clemency, but his message was not answered. After delaying longer than he should, Baird ordered the execution and the two men were hanged. All those who witnessed the hanging agreed the men died bravely.

In the afternoon when Col. Baird had partly regained his composure, he sent the last of the series of messages to Garfield. "... The officers I executed this morning, in my opinion, were not ordinary spies, and had some mission more important than finding out my situation."

"They came near dark," he continued, "asked no questions about forces and did not attempt to inspect works, and after they confessed, insisted they were not spies, in the ordinary sense, and that they wanted no information about this place. Said they were going to Canada and something about Europe; not clear ... Though they admitted the justice of the sentence and died like soldiers, they would not disclose their true object. Their conduct was very singular, indeed; I can make nothing of it."

The solving of the mystery will now never be accomplished. All that is known is two Confederate officers went to Franklin, Tenn., where they were hanged, and that the tragedy caused the ultimate mental breakdown and death of Baird who was responsible for ordering the execution of the young men.



(H.V.) History (T.H.) Community Affairs File

# light on Valley

## Early power company shed

The first electric lighting came to Terre Haute with the formation of the United States Electric Light and Power Co., which was incorporated Feb. 15, 1884.

The company started with \$30,000 — 600 shares at \$5 each. Its first directors were Andrew J. Crawford, Samuel McKeen, Edwin Ellis, Philip Schloss, Richard S. Tennant, Ray G. Jenckes and Robert Geddes.

All these men were well known Terre Haute citizens, but they knew virtually nothing about what they were investing in.

Crawford was a steel man, interested principally in rolling mills and blast furnaces. McKeen and Jenckes were millers. Schloss was a merchant tailor. Tennant was in the coal business. Only Ellis, whose father built and operated the Wabash Woolen Mills on South First Street, had any real mechanical skill.

It is not surprising that they hesitated for a time before starting construction on the new venture. They had a lot to learn.

### Historically speaking



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The records show that some of the original members withdrew, and in place of Schloss and Jenckes, Herman Hulman, C. J. Hammerstein and James P. Crawford had joined the original members. They changed the name of the company to the Terre Haute Electric & Power Co.

Hulman was the head of the firm bearing his name, Hammerstein was in the queensware business

and Crawford was also in the rolling mills. Geddes was a partner in Havens & Geddes, dry goods and notions. The men still believed that \$30,000 would build an electric light plant.

The company acquired the former Bramble Lock Co. building on the west side of 6½ Street, where it intersected what is now the Pennsylvania Railroad. The necessary equipment was ordered and installed, and lines of wire extended into the business section and some outlying territory. On April 10, 1885, the first commercial electric lighting began.

These were the old style arc lights. Current formed an arc between two carbon rods separated enough to cause the arc to form the brightest light ever known to man. The lamps were connected in series; that is, a wire ran from one lamp to another and through each in turn until it completed the circuit.

While most of the lamps were in the downtown business district,

one was installed at the old Union Station on Chestnut and one was in front of the old City Hall and Market House at Fourth and Walnut Streets.

The first attempt to light the Terre Haute streets was with natural gas and gasoline. The success of the new arc lamps caused the city to bargain with the electric company for arc lamps to replace the gas lamps. The new system began operation Feb. 1, 1886. This also was series lighting with a minimal number of wires and poles.

Following the adoption of the incandescent light, it was found that a few hundred feet was the economical limit at 110 volts without adding copper to the line. An immense amount of copper was going to have to be used, more than 75 tons, in these feeder lines for the congested downtown area.

The old company, as it was known back in 1894, expended nearly all its capital in building its lines to reach downtown, and

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added money was needed to complete the system. Improvement was slow and only a flat rate was charged for the use of each lamp.

In those days there was no need for electricity until after dark. Then, the corner drug store and the saloon needed some illumination, along with the city streets when the moon was not shining.

Soon Russell B. Harrison, son of the former president of the United States, entered the picture with his electrified street railway system. Here was competition for the old company.

About the same time the arc light came into use, Hulman & Cox installed a small station in their engine room across the alley from their main building at Fifth and Wabash. A beautiful engine room with tile floors, shining brass work and the largest Corliss valve engine ever seen here was separated from the rest of the building by large plate glass windows.

Inside was the wonderful machine, a dynamo capable of

lighting 100 lamps at once, equal to a 10-kilowatt output. This crude direct current machine (alternating current had not been introduced) was a nine-day wonder then.

Insulated wire had not reached the rubber-coated stage. A wrapping of cotton thread over the wire was encased in a cotton braid and the whole saturated with parafine to make it partly waterproof. It was then laid in a shallow groove in the joists and covered with floor boards for mechanical protection. This proved satisfactory for the 15 years or so that the plant operated.

A one-light machine on top of the old Malt House of Anton Mayer at Ninth and Poplar threw its beams down on one of the first cement sidewalks in town. It was here the boys and girls enjoyed their rollerskating. The P. T. Barnum circus had several of the new lights in the big top — powered by a small steam engine and dynamo — when it showed here east of 14th and back of Gilbert's orchard.



# ISU professor glances back at yesterday

By Jan Chait

Tribune-Star Staff Reporter

Indiana State University had its beginnings in 1866, at a time when Terre Haute was "on the go — a city of great growth" Herbert J. Rissler, chairman of ISU's Department of History, told a score of persons Sunday afternoon.

Rissler addressed the topic of "Reflections on Town versus Gown at Indiana State" during a talk co-sponsored by Friends of Cunningham Library and the Vigo County Historical Society.

"The first and most important contribution made by Terre Haute to the welfare of ISU was in 1866," Rissler said, when the state issued an invitation to towns to bid on a site for a normal school. Terre Haute, the only city in the state to make a bid, promised \$50,000 — the minimum requested — and a block of land worth \$25,000 on which to build a teacher's training school.

With the Indiana State Normal School, the city got a good public school building, Rissler said, explaining that the fourth floor of the new building was set aside for a high school.

"Until Wiley [High School] was finished in 1886, that was Terre Haute's only high school," the professor said.

Rissler called the downtown location of the school both an asset and a liability.

On the plus side, both students and faculty were able to live near the school, although Rissler noted that the president of the school lived in North Terre Haute and had to ride a horse two miles each way to work each day. In addition, with major roadways, railroad and interurban lines, transportation was excellent.

On the minus side, the availability

of places offering room and board to students delayed the building of dormitories but, more importantly, the campus abutted against Terre Haute's famed red light district.

"It gave parents pause about sending their children here," Rissler said, referring to Terre Haute's "sin city" designation.

There also was the problem early on of lack of space for expansion, a consideration which led to talk of moving the campus to another location.

However, Rissler said, urban redevelopment has resulted in the acquisition of more property, giving the campus some 80 acres today.

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# Street numbers started at river

JUN 3 1984

Early advertisers in Terre Haute newspapers gave their locations on Main Street by numbers that started at the Wabash River or Water Street and ran continuously eastward. Under this system there seemed to be no street number higher than about No. 158 which was really in the several blocks away from the river.

In the summer of 1876 when delivery by mail carriers was planned, the City Council was petitioned to adopt the Philadelphia system of numbering buildings. An ordinance was passed in August, and city delivery began Oct. 1, 1879.

Beginning at Water Street and continuing east on the south side of Main Street were four groceries with beer sold in the back rooms. At No. 7 was Thomas A. Cox, then J. W. Mand at No. 9, Marlin G. Rhoads at No. 13, and Mrs. Jane Lundy at No. 15.

On the north side, the Early House, a small hotel on high ground 10 feet or so above the street level, was east of Water Street at No. 14. East of the alley at No. 28 was a grocery kept by Stevenson & Spolts, and at the corner of First Street at No. 30 was the grocery of Hiram J. Foltz in the building long known as Vinegar Hill. That makes six "Last Chances" in one block.

On the south side east of First was Henry Hahn's grocery at 113, and Xavier Hahn's boot and shoe shop at 115. On the north side at the corner

## Historically speaking



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By Dorothy Clark  
Special to The Tribune-Star

was No. 100, occupied for many years by Bauernmeister & Busch, wholesale grocery.

Charles A. Powers had his seed store at 106. H. S. McKenzie's saloon was at 114. Jacob Early had his insurance office at 118, while next door at 120 was the office of S. S. Early, meat packer. Robertson & Crowther had a grocery at 128 and at 130 on the corner was Louis Kanneer's butcher shop.

The south side east of Second Street was the courthouse square, empty in 1879, but construction of the present courthouse was planned for the site. Griffith Bros. Boot and Shoe were listed in that block along with the St. Clair House, later the Indoio Hotel, on the corner at 200.

At 206 was a grocery run by Alix Smock. Fisbeck Bros. had a harness shop at 212, Clark Holdaway had a

grocery at 214, and Charles P. Staub's livery stable stood at 218. Long's Drug Store was at 220, the saloon of Frank Lee was at 222, with rival barber shops run by Joshua Davis at 224 and Roberts & Mitchell at 226. At 228 was the grocery of Enos Strouse.

William Broadhurst had a restaurant at 230, and Groves & Lowery had a drug store at the corner of Third and Main. Diagonally across the streets was the Cook & Bell Wholesale Drug House. In the years to come, Lowery was to become a member of the firm after leaving the corner.

Next east at 303 was Richard L. Ball's stove store; at 307 was the chinaware store of H. S. Richardson, "the drummer boy." Rice & Walmsley had a carpet store at 309, and William Lotz (pronounced Lutz) had a tin store at 311.

The furniture store of E. D. Harvey was at No. 319, William Wilson had a notion store, forerunner of the "five and dime," at 325. G. A. Rogers made boots and shoes at 329 on the corner of Fourth.

On the north side at the corner, No. 300 was the Boot & Shoe Shop of Daniel Reibold; next door at 302 was the clothing store of LeeHirsch. At 304 Stephen R. Freeman had his jewelry store for many years until he was succeeded by Sam Sterchi. Joseph A. Foote had the seed store at 306; William H. Robbins had a

shoe store at 310, and next door at 312 was the harness shop of Farley & Roach. At 314 was another shoe store run by H. Clark & Son, and at 318 was the saloon and billard parlor of G. & L. Monninger.

At 320 was Richard Tiernan's millinery store; at 324 Max Joseph had a clothing store he had moved from Second and Wabash. A. P. Kivits ran a shoe store at 326, and Gulick & Berry were on the corner at 330.

The First National Bank was at the southeast corner at No. 401. Next door was Henry F. Schmidt & Co. Jewelers, at 403, and at 407 was another shoe shop with Paddock & Purcell. Fred J. Biel had a tobacco shop at 409, the office of Col. W. E. McLean, attorney, upstairs. At 411 was a saloon owned by John M. Confare. Brokaw Bros. had a carpet store at 413; C. C. Smith & Sons Hardware Store was at 417, and J. H. Sykes hat store was next at 419.

Stein & Heckelsberg were at 421; Adolph Arnold's clothing store was at 423, and at 425 was the delicious candy made by A. B. Mewhinney. Wolf's hardware store was at 427, next door to the National State Bank on the corner.

The old Indoio Hotel was built by John D. Early about 1844 and was used as a hotel under several names. In 1854 the upper floor was added, and it became the first four-story building in Terre Haute. The rear rooms fronting on Second Street were added at the same time.

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# Homes in city trace history's path

T S OCT 30 1983

By Dorothy J. Clark

A very old house always has a slight sound, as if it were talking softly to itself. It is a cheerful, comfortable sound, and perhaps at night the house remembers all the happy times, the Christmas holidays, the babies born under its roof since it was built.

We wonder if the builder, as he hand-cut the clapboards, had any idea he was building so well and for so many families to come. Sure, they say some houses are haunted by all the tragic and sad events that took place within the walls. Possibly. If so, isn't it also probable that happy houses exist in greater numbers than unhappy ones?

According to the client's pocket-book, American builders planned low-pitched, gable-ended roofs, the classic Parthenon facade for the Greek Revival houses in style in the 1830s and 1840s. There were few architects involved in anything smaller than a public building.

Built in well-shaded yards, these unpretentious houses did not pretend to any fashion of the day. According to standing in the community or pocketbook, houses were built of brick on stone foundations, or of wood on a brick foundation. Lawns were landscaped and decorated with fountains and statuary in some cases.

House plan books of that day helped the builder and his client choose room arrangements and architectural styles. Some pointed out a house built for a friend or neighbor and went from there, maybe changing the windows, put-

ting the chimney on the other side, or rearranging the porches, etc. Some modern architects believe that the early styles told something about their owners. A Gothic Revival house might have meant the owner was proud to be of old English stock. The French style house showed the owner preferred a stylish and fashionable home, while the Italianate house was the choice of a cultured and artistic household, not necessarily of Italian descent.

Between 1870 and 1900 the trend was for more elaborate home designs, to the fancy and baroque, with lots of cupolas, odd-shaped towers and windows. During this time period America equated wealth with virtue — fine men built fine houses, and he who built a fine home would be taken for a fine man.

Victorian home builders could also choose from builder's plan books, and advancing technology made possible cheaper building. Middle class homes were decorated with Victorian gingerbread made possible by jig saws and scroll saws.

The so-called Queen Ann style of the 1880s had nothing to do with Queen Anne who reigned 1702-14. The American imitation was inspired by pictures of English country houses.

Elements of Tudor, Gothic and English Renaissance were combined in an eclectic style using steep-pitched roofs, asymmetrical gables, towers and turrets, and gingerbread porches (called verandas or piazzes) and eaves. Scaled down, these

houses were called Queen Anne cottages.

Tudor shingles, English oak, stained-glass windows and fireplaces supplemented by central heating became the rage. During the Gay Nineties middle class home owners added even more Victorian excesses of gingerbread and brackets. Working men lived in "shotgun" houses, many without front porches.

By 1910, people were moving into new subdivisions around the edge of town. The pioneer's frontier was replaced by the suburbs with all the maples, elms or beech trees carefully retained.

When street numbers were added to the houses, everyone knew the town was assuming a city air. Next came street signs and eventually paving, along with street lights. Gone were the days when everyone knew where everyone else lived and could direct the stranger without difficulty.

Most middle class houses were located close to the street to allow space for a producing garden on the back of the lot. People thought you had something to hide if the house was placed back on the lot behind the trees.

In a December issue of the Terre Haute Tribune in 1906 was the news of a new residence in the city. "Excavations were commenced for the new residence of Moses Pierson, of Pierson Brothers Lumber Company, on South Sixth Street near

Washington Ave. Architect Robert T. Yrydag has embodied in the plans several unique and pleasing features."

"The building will be frame, two-stories high, with ten commodious rooms besides an extraordinarily-large central and reception room, and a completely tiled bathroom." The foundation was of compressed brick and the roof of slate. The interior finish was to be of oak, mahogany, white enamel and extensive tile wainscoting. It was expected the new home would be ready for occupancy by May, 1906.

A peek in the city directories shows that in 1906 Moses Pierson lived at 708 S. Sixth St. His business address was 800 S. Ninth St., where, he and his brother, Isaac T. Pierson, operated Pierson & Brot., lumber, sash, doors, blinds, shingles, laths, etc. His brother lived at 507 S. Center St.

The 1907 city directory shows that the new residence was located at 1318 S. Sixth St.

The next year another new home was underway for George C. Buntin, 1454 S. Center St. The old house was moved to a lot across the street, where the family lived until the new brick colonial home was built on the site of the former home. Work began April 1, 1908.

Buntin was vice president of the Smith & Buntin Drug Co., 600 Wabash Ave., with William C. Buntin, president, and T. H. Buntin, secretary-treasurer. This firm was described as "pharmacists; analytical and manufacturing chemists and drug assayers." The residence of W. C. Buntin was at 630 Cherry St.

## Historically speaking

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# —Historically Speaking—

By Dorothy Clark

Community Affairs File

## Liquor question big in the early 1900s

History (T.H.)

DEC 11 1977



The liquor question was very big in 1910, and the merits of "wet" or "dry" towns were uppermost in people's minds.

The general belief was that as long as farmers raise wheat, corn and barley, whisky will be made and sold.

The government licenses the making and therefore it is folly for any state or locality to attempt to prevent the sale.

Reports from the larger towns in the counties that had gone "dry" in 1910 showed a falling off in various kinds of business. People who enjoyed an occasional "snifter" of a glass of beer would combine pleasure with business and go to the nearest "wet" town to shop.

Paris, Brazil, Clinton and Sullivan were all "dry" towns and Terre Haute business profited from this fact. Most every Saturday and every mine pay day, the interurban cars were crowded with men and their wives who came shopping.

Each bought a supply of staples to run "til next payday" and the greater part of the wages of the workingmen from the surrounding "dry" towns was spent in Terre Haute.

When the shoppers boarded the car to return home, the man of the house was usually carrying a suspicious looking package which assured that if his hometown was "dry," he wouldn't be.

For example, take Clinton, 16 miles north of Terre Haute, where 44 saloons were put out of business. The merchants complained that the miners all came to Terre Haute to do their trading and the temperance people were forced to admit that nothing was gained from their alleged victory.

"Social Clubs" abounded in the mining town and were reinforced by jugs and bottles carried up from Terre Haute. Conditions were worse than when the half-hundred saloons were running full blast, but under surveillance of the police and paying revenue into the town.

Some of the saloons in Terre Haute in 1910 were Mitchell & Woods, northwest corner 4th and Ohio; James Morrell, 1009 Wabash; J.F. Curran, 131 N. 3rd; Paris Buffet, 30 S. 3rd; E.E. Callendar, 1026 Wabash; Joseph Rauch, 1229 Main;

Harry Johnson, 1215 Main; William Baxter's Bar, 405 Wabash; and Edward Haise, 831 Oak St.

Also, Keith's Cafe & Bar, 220 Wabash; Fritz Meyer Bar, 16 S. 4th; Smith & Doyle, 719 Wabash, famous for a "merchant's lunch, best in city, for 15 cents"; A.B. Leasure, 677 Wabash; Washington Saloon, 8th and Wabash, run by Steumpfle & Welte; and James F. O'Donnell, northeast corner 13th and Maple.

And, John Jakles' Place, 416 Ohio; C.E. McCurdy's Pabst Cafe, 659 Wabash; C.L. Carter, 134 Wabash; The Avalon, 725 Wabash; and John L. Walsh, 24 S. 3rd St.

Eddie Gosnell's hotel, bar, poolroom and summer garden was located at the corner of 13th, Maple and Lafayette Avenue.

The Unsold Bar and Restaurant, 1242 Wabash, was run by George Unsold; the Model Saloon, 19 S. 4th; High Life Buffet, by Charles F. Stevens; Fritz Schatz saloon, 1012 Wabash; Patterson and Birch Bar; John C. Arnold Saloon, northwest corner 14th and Poplar; O'Donnell & O'Mara Buffet, 318 Wabash; Mecca Bar, 16 S. 5th, run by S.J. Linton; Shea Bros., 314 Wabash; John Kickler's Bar, 116 S. 4th St.; Clay's Buckeye Saloon, 1152 Lafayette Ave.; and John Sohn, 1430 N. 9th St.

All of the preceding saloon establishments advertised in the Labor Day edition of the Terre Haute Clarion, a weekly labor newspaper established in May, 1910. The editor was Albert I. Meyers.

The Temperance Crusade really began in the 1830s when hard drinking was usual among all classes and occupations.

Whiskey was considered a necessity for those engaged in physical labor. Drunkenness was common.

The churches began a crusade against drinking and by the 1830s temperance movement was well under way. It was strongest in New England and in states where many New Englanders had settled. Ohio was first to restrict liquor sales (1830); Maine was the first to prohibit its sale entirely (1846).

Within a dozen years, 13 states followed Maine's example by passing laws which

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strictly regulated or prohibited the sale of liquor.

One argument against strong drink was the injury it did to the human body. Another argument was that it reduced the workman's efficiency, but the most common argument was the religious one that drinking led to sin.

Apparently many people have preferred the primrose path in the past century and a half.

The problem is still with us, but much of the damage and loss of life occurs on the highways to non-drinkers as well as the imbibers.

Begun during the Jackson era, Prohibition gathered strength after the Civil War and by 1900 several states, all of them rural, were "dry" and many other states had "local option."

By 1917 nearly all rural areas and small towns were dry. During World War I, Congress stopped the manufacture of alcoholic beverages to conserve grains. It also sent the states an amendment to the Constitution prohibiting the manufacture, sale or transportation of intoxicating beverages. The 18th Amendment was promptly ratified in 1919.

Terre Haute and surrounding areas were to begin a new era of bootlegging, "blind pigs" and roadhouses with the familiar password "Joe sent me" ...but that's another story.



# Commerce was plentiful even in city's early days

T<sup>S</sup> FEB 13 1984

One of the very early city directories — published in 1858 — has some very interesting information. For example, there were 80 retail and commercial firms that early in the city's history.

There were five drug stores, six clothing stores, three shoe stores, two book stores, four hardware stores and three leather shops. There were several neighborhood groceries and a wholesale grocery and liquor distributor.

The principal business at that time was pork-packing and coopers. The salted pork was placed in the barrels, shipped south by river earlier, then by train to Evansville, where it was placed on Ohio River barges and shipped to Mississippi river ports and New Orleans. Wheat and corn was also exported from the area south and north to Chicago.

In 1857 there were three foundaries, three flour mills, two woolen mills, a plow mill, six brick yards, a distillery, a stave and barrel plant, two soap and candle firms, a steam boiler plant, three carriage firms. Some iron ore was mined in the area, some found when shafts were being dug for coal mines. For a few years, the iron ore was used locally, made into iron ingots, but not for long.

There were five hotels, the Terre Haute House; Buntin, Third and Ohio; Clark House, First and Ohio; Stewart, Second and Main; and Cincinnati House, North Fourth Street. The Old Eagle Hotel had stood at Third and Mulberry; and the National Road House, about 10th and Wabash.

One of the first free schools was built at Third and Locust, known as the Sibleytown School. It was later a tuition school. The oldest school building in Terre Haute at present is the Thompson School, 12th and Ohio, well over 100-years-old. Among the schools that have fallen to the wrecking ball are Hook, Fourth and Mulberry; Harrison, Seventh and Third Ave.; Hulman,



## Main Street

Richard Tuttle, who retired from The Tribune-Star in 1983, is a walking compendium of Terre Haute's history.

By Richard C. Tuttle

Assistant Editor Emeritus

Seventh and Swan; Montrose, 17th and Franklin; Sandison, North 18th Street; Collett, 10th and Linden; Sheridan in Sheridan Park; and Ross. Some of the old buildings are being used as warehouses, retail firms and neighborhood centers.



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History (TH)

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## 'Eagle and Lion' greeted early visitors

By Frances E. Hughes

First celebration of the Fourth of July in the village of Terre Haute was held in 1817 at the far-famed Eagle and Lion Tavern on the southeast corner of First and Main (Wabash Avenue) Streets.

This one learns from "The History of Early Terre Haute from 1816-1840," by Blackford Condit, which was published in 1900 by A. S. Barnes and Company of New York.

Henry Redford built the tavern of hewed logs with a porch across the front of it. Later, a frame addition was added. The tavern was a traveler's rest, villagers' boarding house and common meeting place. It had a big barroom with the fireplace and a big dining room that was often cleared for dancing.

The sign in front of the tavern, fastened between two large posts, represented an eagle picking out the eyes of a lion. It depicted the triumph of Americans over the British in the War of 1812.

Alongside of the tavern was a big stable with many stalls, a loft filled with hay and bins filled with oats and corn.

A reminder of the old tavern is the log cabin on the property of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Hord Ray, west of the city, where the Rays have rebuilt some very old cabins from the community. One of these is designated as the Eagle and Lion Tavern on which there is a sign similar to the original one that was made by Paul Heaton, local commercial artist.

It was not until 15 years after the original tavern was built that the town of Terre Haute was incorporated by an act of the legislature, approved in 1832. At a meeting on January 26 of that year at the Court House, officers were elected and the town was divided into five wards. The population was then 600 and by three years later, it had doubled.

In 1838, a new charter was granted by the State Legislature. Under its provisions, a new Mayor was chosen. As the town progressed that year, a daily mail to Indianapolis was established and the Prairie House was opened.

Keelboats and barges for freight and passengers plied the Wabash River (spelled Ouabache by the French) and then steamboats started to land at Terre Haute. Some of the early boats before the steamboats were propelled by oars and others by poles. Small barges were called scows.

There also were rafts, skiffs or yawls with canoe-shaped front ends and square back ends, propelled by oars in row locks, seen on the river in those early days. Ferry boats, big flat-bottomed boats propelled by poles or oars, went back and forth across the river to transport animals and loaded wagons from one side to the other.

Home-made flat boats that floated with the current and carried large cargoes down the river to New Orleans were often from 60 to 100 feet long, 16 to 22 feet wide and five feet high. They were made of logs and calked with oakum. The sides were boarded up with heavy planks fastened to stanchions with wooden pegs or pins, again calked with oakum. The roofs were covered, all but an opening at one end set off for bunks and for cooking.

It took 21 days for these boats to float down river to New Orleans. The boats were guided and sometimes propelled by big

oars and the crew usually consisted of the captain and five boat hands.

The first steamboat came to Terre Haute in 1822 and later there were packet boats. Some boats were built at a boat yard north of the city on the banks of the river.

When mail was first delivered between here and Indianapolis in 1838, letters were 25 cents each and were delivered by stage coach, the driver drawing up in front of the Post Office and handing the mail sacks to the Postmaster. Mail stages ran three times a week.

Finally, a mail wagon was put into operation and when the railroads were running, mail was sent by train. Before that, however, there was the Pony Express delivery with boys on ponies sounding horns as they came into town on the Old National Road in 1840.

The early Postmaster, John M. Coleman, set up the free mail delivery system. He used the tall crown of his hat as a receptacle for his big red silk handkerchief, gloves and other loose articles. He easily converted his hat to a letter pouch, deposited letters in the hat with his handkerchief and started on his rounds.

Meeting a friend for whom he had a letter, he would doff his hat and deliver the letter. That is, if the friend had the 25 cents postage. If not, the letter was returned to the dead letter office in Washington, D.C.

Although we think of women's liberation being new in recent years, the movement was active as early as 1847 in Terre Haute when, according to an article in the local paper then, "Miss Hunter gave a lecture on 'Women's Rights.'" There also was a movement among women about this time to adopt men's clothing for feminine wear. The newspapers derived a great deal of humor and jest from the "Pantaloons agitation" but nothing serious ever came of it.



# City's Location, Resources Helped Its Development

By MIKE RUSSELL  
Star Staff Writer

Terre Haute: "The Pittsburgh of the West"!

Such were the dreams of businessmen and industrialists in the Wabash Valley in the years immediately following the turn of the century. Settled by a river, criss-crossed by railroads and booming with business, Terre Haute indeed appeared as though it would mushroom into a giant as had Pittsburgh in the east.

Leading commercial centers such as Chicago, St. Louis, Cincinnati and Louisville were all within a day's travel and, perhaps more importantly, could be reached by mail within five hours. Within a 50-mile radius of the city lived more than 400,000 people, hard-working and intelligent.

Of utmost importance to the city in 1903 when the Morning Star first hit the streets were the railroads. No less than six rail companies had service to Terre Haute and three were based in the city. The Southern Indiana Railroad, Terre Haute & Indianapolis Railroad, and the Terre Haute Electric Company were based locally. The Chicago & Eastern Illinois, the Cleveland, Cincinnati, Chicago & St. Louis (Big Four), and the Evansville & Terre Haute lines also ran through the city.

The retail trade in the city was said to be the largest in the state on a per capita basis. Many of the companies in business then still open their doors to customers today, including Hulman & Company, National Cash Register, Ermisch (dry cleaning company), E.H. Bindley & Company, L.B. Root Company (now the Root Store) Heinel & Son, Krietenstein's, Paige & Company, the Great Atlantic & Pacific Tea Company and Western Union Telegraph Company.

The city could also boast of five banks with a combined capital of more than \$2 million. Open for business then as now were the Terre Haute Savings Bank at 533 Ohio St. and the First National Bank at 511 and

513 Wabash Ave. There were also numerous savings and loan companies, among them Indiana Savings and Loan, Merchants Savings Association and the Wabash and Ft. Harrison savings and loan associations (which would later merge).

Natural resources also pointed to the continued economic growth of the city. There was what was believed at that time to be an inexhaustible supply of coal, and the clay and shale deposits made brick and tile products a big industry. Deposits of sand were also developed at that time, meaning a future in the glass industry for the city.

The farm land, as well, was productive and valued throughout the midwest. Farm land near the Wabash River was known to have yielded as much as 100 bushels of corn per acre and some acres as much as 50 bushels of wheat. Little doubt, then, that the largest grain elevator in the state should be located in Terre Haute.

The city could be proud of the fact that the largest hominy mills in the world were located in its limits. There was also a brewer turning out 300,000 barrels of beer per year, many of which never got outside the city limits.

The Terre Haute House was but one of 27 hotels in the city in 1903, and the Morning Star was but one of five newspapers. Other newspapers included the Tribune, Journal, Gazette and Toiler.

Many of the businesses and industries operating in the early part of the century have survived, but even more have closed their doors for one reason or another. Following is a list of some businesses in Terre Haute then which are no longer present today. (In parentheses is the number of shops in 1903.):

Barrel manufacturers (5)  
Blacksmiths (25)  
Carriage, buggy & wagon dealers (22)  
Chimney tops & flue linings (3)

Clairvoyants (4)  
Cigar manufacturers (18)  
Coppersmiths (2)  
Corset makers (1)  
Dairymen (30)  
Feather renovators (1)  
Grits manufacturers (1)  
Hides, pelts and furs (5)  
Ice dealers (5)  
Livery & boarding stables (20)  
Massage treatment (3)  
Midwives (1)  
Sugar plantations (1)  
Talking machines (8)  
Wagon yards (13)  
Groceries (193)

There were others, of course.

Needless to say, Terre Haute has yet to attain to the success of Pittsburgh. Unforeseen developments in technology, the growth of other areas and cities, strikes, wars and prohibition crippled some of the cities industries. But in 1903, the future was bright. The following is taken from a publication released in 1904 and currently the property of the Vigo County Historical Society.

"The revival of industrial activity which came with the beginning of the McKinley administration was felt no more decidedly anywhere than in Terre Haute. Through the financial panic of 1893 the merchants pursued the most conservative and careful methods, protected themselves with good judgment, as a consequence of which they came through it solid and sound... "The result of this has been a healthy boom in all business circles. There have been no speculative fluctuations, men have not made any fortunes between two moons, or has any financial upheaval of any sort interrupted the steady and continuous run of business.

"All of this can have but one outcome. It is but an evidence of what is likely to be. Industrial activity coupled with the superb opportunities and the inexhaustible resources of this territory will make Terre Haute the commercial center of the middle west."

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